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THE HINDU

INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878

FRIDAY, JUNE 17, 2022

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
18 pages • ₹6.00
Vol. 53 • No. 143

PRINTED AT · CHENNAI · COIMBATORE · BENGALURU · HYDERABAD · MADURAI · NOIDA · VISAKHAPATNAM · THIRUVANANTHAPURAM · KOCHI · VIJAYAWADA · MANGALURU · TIRUCHIRAPALLI · KOLKATA · HUBBALLI · MOHALI · MALAPPURAM · MUMBAI · TIRUPATI · LUCKNOW · CUTTACK · PATNA

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NEARBY

BJP plans big Bengaluru push with Modi's visit

BENGALURU

The BJP is planning a big Bengaluru push to launch its campaign for the civic polls and 2023 Assembly polls, starting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the city on Monday.

BENGALURU ▸ PAGE 3

Karnataka among 2 States to host One Health pilot

BENGALURU

Karnataka will be one of two States where the 'One Health' programme will be piloted, the other State being Uttarakhand. To be launched on June 28, the pilot will be used to develop a national One Health Framework.

BENGALURU ▸ PAGE 4

Wait for Ukraine-returned students continues

BENGALURU

A cloud of uncertainty hangs over thousands of students who were forced to return from Ukraine earlier this year. Continuation of the war, coupled with the delay in the government's decision, has cast a shadow over education.

BENGALURU ▸ PAGE 5

METROPLUS ▸ PAGE 7

Anti-Agnipath stir turns violent

- Trains set afire, MLA's vehicle attacked in Bihar
- 34 trains cancelled amid uproar in several States
- Opposition, trade unions join the chorus

A.M. JIGEESH
NEW DELHI

Thousands of youth in various States took to the streets demanding a rollback of "contractualisation" of jobs in the Indian armed forces, under the newly announced Agnipath scheme.

Opposition parties, trade unions, farmers' associations, youth organisations and students' outfits of various political affiliations joined in chorus to support the protests against the scheme to recruit soldiers on a four-year contract basis. These organisations started consulting each other on Thursday for forming a national platform against Agnipath. Opposition parties urged the Centre to withdraw the scheme considering national interest. The Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh-affiliated trade union, the Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh, termed the protests politically motivated, but distanced itself from Agnipath.

Youth protested against the scheme in States such as Bihar, Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Rajasthan, where the bulk of the Army recruitment takes place. In Delhi, too, youth organisations held protests in solidarity with their counterparts in other States.

The Indian Railways said 34 trains had been cancelled and 72 trains were running late due to the protests and attacks against trains.

Violent protests continued in Bihar for the second day as protesters set afire train coaches in Kaimur and Chhapra districts, blocked train movements in Siwan, Ara (Bhojpur), Jehanabad, Nawada, Saharsha, Chhapra and other places, while road traffic too was disrupted at some places.

As many as 22 trains were cancelled and five were stopped mid-way, said East Central Railway officials. Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MLA Aruna Devi's vehicle was attacked by protesters in Nawada, leaving her and some people accompanying her injured. The BJP office in Nawada too was vandalised by the violent protesters who were demanding the restoration of the old system of recruitment in defence services.

Fifteen police personnel, including two station house officers, sustained serious injuries and five government vehicles were torched at Haryana's Palwal during the protests. Demonstrators blocked the Delhi-Jaipur highway in Gurugram for over six hours. Traffic was diverted at several points in Haryana and Rajasthan.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 12

Raging fury: A train set afire by protesters at the Chhapra railway station in Bihar on Thursday. • PTI

Hiring upper age limit raised to 23 for this year

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Amid widespread protests, the Union government on Thursday increased the upper age limit to 23 from 21 for recruitment under the Agnipath scheme for the year 2022. "Cognisant of the fact that it has not been possible to undertake recruitment during the last two years, the government has decided that a one-time waiver shall be granted for the proposed recruitment cycle for 2022," a Defence Ministry spokesperson said.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 12

MORE REPORTS ▸ PAGE 12

Demolitions should not be retaliatory, SC tells U.P. govt.

Any action should be in accordance with law: Bench

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday told the Uttar Pradesh government that demolitions could happen only in accordance with the provisions of law and could not be retaliatory. The court said this after hearing petitions which alleged that State authorities had taken the "appalling" step to wreak "vengeance" on the homes of people allegedly linked to violence in the aftermath of the Prophet remarks' row.

The house of an accused in the Prayagraj violence case, being razed on June 12. • AFP

"Ultimately, the rule of law should prevail... any action by you should be in accordance with the law," Justice A.S. Bopanna, leading a Vacation Bench also comprising Justice Vikram Nath, addressed the Uttar Pradesh government.

Issuing notice to the State and listing the case for hearing next week, the Bench said the question was whether the State had followed due process of law before demolishing the properties in places such as Prayagraj and Kanpur.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 12

Demand for suburban rail to the airport

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

As the countdown begins for Prime Minister Narendra Modi to lay the foundation stone for the suburban rail project, there is growing demand from citizens to consider a line to the international airport on priority.

Though the Centre had imposed a rider that the K-RIDE must take up the KSR Bengaluru- Devanahalli line connecting KIA on priority, K-RIDE decided to take up Baiyappanahalli-Chikkabanavara corridor instead. Activists said despite the existing transport options to the airport with terminal 2 coming at KIA pushing up footfall, the suburban rail, along with its integration with the existing metro and railway stations, will go a long way in providing a robust mass transit system to the airport.

DETAILS ON ▸ PAGE 6

Daily COVID cases cross 12,000 mark

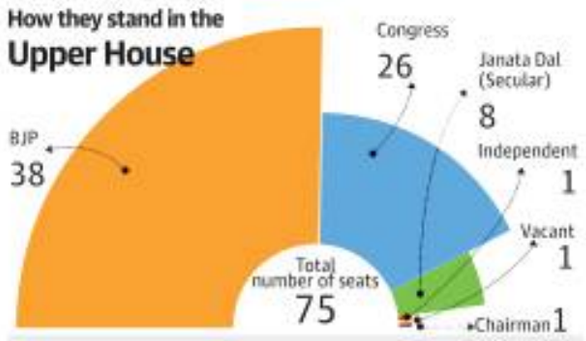
PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

For the first time in 111 days, India reported over 12,000 new COVID-19 cases on a single day on Thursday, with Mumbai topping the table. The active caseload is 58,215, according to data from the Health Ministry. There were 11 deaths.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 12

Council poll results: It's 2 each for BJP and Cong.

JD(S) lost both the seats it held



Newly elected members

Basavaraj Horatti - BJP (Karnataka West Teachers)
Hanumanth Nirani- BJP (Karnataka North West Graduates)
Prakash Hukkeri - Congress (Karnataka North West Teachers)
Madhu Made Gowda- Congress (Karnataka South Graduates)

KARNATAKA BUREAU
BENGALURU/ MYSURU/ BELAGAVI

With the results of all the four graduates and teachers constituencies coming in by Thursday afternoon, the ruling BJP has managed to maintain its majority in the Legislative Council by a slender margin. Of the four seats, BJP and Congress won two seats each.

In a major setback, the Janata Dal (Secular) lost both the seats it held, one each to the Congress and the BJP. The Congress improved its tally by two. Though the BJP won two seats, it lost the North West Teachers' constituency to the Congress, while wresting the West Teachers' from the Janata Dal (S). In the 75-member Upper House, the BJP has 39 members, including the pro tem Chairman Raghunath Rao Malkapure while the Congress and the Janata Dal (S) have 26 and 8 seats respectively. There is one Independent and a seat vacant due to the resignation of C.M. Ibrahim.

The South Graduates constituency saw the longest counting process with about 29 hours and finally Congress candidate Madhu Made Gowda was declared winner on Thursday. He defeated his nearest rival M.V. Ravishankar of the BJP by a margin of 12,204 votes. While Mr. Gowda polled 46,082 votes, Mr. Ravishankar secured 33,87 votes. The JD (S) candidate H.K. Ramu was relegated to the third position with 19,360 votes. Kannada protagonist Vatal Nagaraj could poll only 516 votes. The loss of South Graduates constituency for the Janata Dal (Secular) is seen as a setback to the party.

In the early hours of Thursday, Hanumanth Nirani, brother of Industries Minister Murugesh Nirani was declared winner in the North West Graduates constituency after over 17 hours of counting. He trounced his nearest rival and Congress candidate Sunil Sunk by a margin of 34,693 votes. Mr. Nirani polled 44,815 votes as against 10,122 votes polled by Mr. Sunk.

The former Council Chairman Basavaraj Horatti had registered a record eighth victory from Karnataka West Teachers constituency on a BJP ticket and senior Congress leader Prakash Hukkeri won from the Karnataka North West Teachers constituency on Wednesday.

RELATED REPORTS ▸ PAGE 8

Second home

Winged visitors: Grey Pelicans roosting at the Atapaka Bird Sanctuary in Kolleru Lake, Andhra Pradesh. Thousands of these migratory birds reach the sanctuary every year for nesting. • V. RAJU

'Upper castes' in Bidar village boycott anganwadi

KUMAR BURADIKATTI
HATYAL (BIDAR DISTRICT)

Sumitra and Milanbai, teacher and helper respectively at the anganwadi in Hatyal village of Bidar district, were sitting idle on Thursday morning as no child had turned up.

Ms. Milanbai tried persuading parents in nearby houses to send their children to the anganwadi, but to no avail. The "upper caste" people of the village had boycotted the anganwadi, allegedly so that their children need not eat food prepared by Ms. Milanbai, a Dalit.

Hatyal, a village of around 200 households, is located about 20 km from Basavakalyan, the taluk headquarters, and 90 km from Bidar, the district headquarters. A majority of the households belong to the Maratha community.

The village has two anganwadis, one in the Dalit colony and other in what is called "general" area.

Unofficially, a caste segregation has always existed between the two. "Dalit anganwadi" has no issues as the teacher, helper, and children are Dalits. But the "non-Dalit anganwadi" has had trouble ever since Ms. Milanbai was appointed as helper nine months ago.

Since the anganwadi was closed due to COVID-19 and foodgrains were supplied directly to the houses, the problem had not surfaced so far.

The anganwadi was opened and the preparation of food for children was planned about two weeks ago. It was then that the "upper caste" households started raising objections.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 5

Karnataka Assembly turns 70 tomorrow

First Assembly had 99 elected members and one nominated

SHARATH S. SRIVATSA
BENGALURU

On Saturday, the Legislative Assembly of Karnataka, formed following the general elections in 1952, will turn 70. It succeeded the erstwhile Mysore Provisional Assembly formed in 1949 and was the first Assembly after the Constitution of India came into being and after the first election based on universal adult franchise in the post independent India.

First meeting

At 11 a.m. on Wednesday, June 18, 1952, the compact Mysore Legislative Assembly (as it was called then) met at the Assembly Hall of the Old Public Offices that now houses the Karnataka High Court.

H. Siddaiah, K. Hanumanthaiya, and V. Venkatappa. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

As against the current Assembly strength of 224 elected members and one nominated member, the first Assembly had 99 elected members and one nominated member. While June 18 marks 70 years of the Legislative Assembly in post independence period, the history of the Assembly in Karnataka goes back to 1881 when the first Mysore Representative Assembly was formed.

Mysore Legislative Assembly debates, available in the Karnataka Legislature library, chronicles how the first session unfolded.

The Rajapramukh and the erstwhile ruler of Mysuru Princely State Jaya Chamaraja Wadiyar appointed V. Venkatappa as the interim Speaker to administer oath to the members and conduct election to the post of the Speaker. As the Leader of the House, K. Hanumanthaiya, the Chief Minister and Finance Minister, was the first to take oath, and on the first day 94 members took oath. Thomas Sydney A. was the first nominated member of the house. Lakshmi Devi Ramanna (Hoskote-Anekal), Siddamma B. (Davangere) and Subbamma B.L. (Chikkamagalur-Mudigere) were the three elected women members.

Gopala Gowda loses

The first election to the post of the Speaker was conducted on the first day through ballot paper in which noted socialist S. Gopala Gowda lost to Congress member H. Siddaiah by a huge margin. While Siddaiah polled 79 votes, Gopala Gowda could only muster 14 votes as the Congress had won a landslide victory in the just concluded election.

The Congress had won 74 seats, followed by Kisan Mazdoor Praja Party 8, Socialist Party 3, Scheduled Caste Federation 2, and Communist Party of India 1, besides 11 Independents.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 5

Size of first Budget ₹201 cr.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The first session of the first Karnataka Assembly met between June 18, 1952, and June 30, 1952, during which the Budget was presented by Hanumanthaiya. While the tentative agenda circulated among the members had budget presentation on June 20 and the Rajapramukh had fixed the date, the government did not present it on that day citing lack of time for discussion. Several members took objection to it.

Eventually, the revenue deficit Budget with a total outlay of ₹201 crore against the anticipated revenue of ₹200 crore, a deficit by ₹1.01 crore was presented on June 23. For comparison, Karnataka's Budget size for 2022-23 is ₹2,65,720 crore.

THE HINDU

Text & Context

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NEWS IN NUMBERS

Tax evasion

1.25 In billion euros, the amount McDonald's will pay in France to avoid a legal case over tax evasion between 2009 and 2020, under an agreement approved by a Paris court. This is the second-biggest tax settlement in French history, made up of a €508 million fine and €737 million in back taxes already agreed in May, years after McDonald's was accused of reporting artificially low profits to reduce its tax bill. France's biggest tax fine was in 2020, when aircraft builder Airbus had to cough up €2.1 billion. AFP

Journalists in jail

16 The number of Kurdish journalists jailed after being detained last week over charges of spreading terrorist propaganda. Turkey has jailed more reporters than most other countries over the last decade, according to the Committee to Protect Journalists. Several media groups had condemned last week's detentions as "ruthless". Turkey ranks a low 149 out of 180 countries on the Reporters Without Borders's (RSF) World Press Freedom Index, which describes it as a country in which "all possible means are used to undermine critics". REUTERS

Soaring jet fuel prices

16 The percentage by which jet fuel prices were hiked on Thursday. The hike, the steepest ever, propelled rates to an all-time high in line with the hardening international oil rates. The hike, which comes on the back of a marginal 1.3% (₹1,563.97 per kl) cut in rate earlier this month, takes jet fuel prices to record high across the country. Brent — the world's most popular crude oil benchmark — was on Thursday trading at $119.16 per barrel, the highest in almost a decade. The increase in jet fuel prices will raise the operating cost for airlines. PTI

Interest rake hikes

25 The basis points by which the Bank of England raised interest rates to combat price increases that have pushed inflation to a 40-year high. The Bank of England's action took its key rate to 1.25% and marked five consecutive increases that began in December. While the U.K.'s central bank began raising interest rates earlier than its counterparts, it is now trailing the U.S. Federal Reserve in the fight against inflation. The Fed did go bolder on Wednesday, raising its benchmark rate by three-quarters of a percentage point. AP

Mounting case load

7,100 The number of COVID-19 cases reported in Delhi in the last 10 days. Amid a spike in daily cases, the positivity rate too, has climbed from 1.92% on June 7 to 7.01% on June 15. Delhi on Wednesday recorded 1,375 cases, the highest daily tally in a month, and zero deaths. Daily case count and other associated metrics, such as active cases, home isolation cases have also seen a parallel rise. Home isolation cases rose from 1,006 on June 7 to 2,108 on June 15, as per official data. PTI

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

EXPLAINER

The reasons behind the crashing crypto market

Why do governments and central banks view cryptocurrencies negatively? Do these virtual currencies have intrinsic value?

THE GIST

- Bitcoin has lost more than two-thirds of its value while Ethereum has lost almost 80% from its peak. As a result, the overall market capitalisation of cryptocurrencies has dropped under $1 trillion for the first time since January 2021.
- Most analysts believe that the fall in the price of cryptocurrencies is in line with the fall in prices of stocks as central banks such as the U.S. Federal Reserve tighten monetary policy to fight inflation.
- Cryptocurrency enthusiasts argue that cryptocurrencies have always been subject to extreme price swings and that the current crash is a good time to buy these virtual currencies at a tremendous bargain. Sceptics, however, believe that the current crash could very well be the end of the road for cryptocurrencies.

PRASHANTH PERUMAL

The story so far: Bitcoin and many other cryptocurrencies have been crashing since they hit an all-time high late last year. Bitcoin has lost more than two-thirds of its value since it hit a peak of around $69,000 in November last year and is currently trading at around the $22,000 mark. Ethereum, another cryptocurrency popular among investors, has lost almost 80% from its peak. As a result, the overall market capitalisation of cryptocurrencies has dropped under $1 trillion for the first time since January 2021. The crash, which shows no signs of reversal yet, seems to have led to a drop in investor enthusiasm with trading volumes in Indian cryptocurrency exchanges dropping by 90% from their peak.

Why are cryptocurrencies crashing?
It may not be possible to pinpoint the exact reasons why investors are fleeing cryptocurrencies at the moment. Most analysts believe that the fall in the price of cryptocurrencies is in line with the fall in prices of stocks and other assets as central banks such as the U.S. Federal Reserve tighten monetary policy to fight price rise. As central banks withdraw liquidity from the market, there's less money chasing assets, which in turn causes the prices of assets to drop. Others believe that the crash could also mark the popping of the bubble that has driven the prices of cryptocurrencies to stratospheric levels.

Sceptics have long argued that the price of cryptocurrencies seem driven more by speculative fervour fuelled by easy monetary policy than by any fundamental factors.

Sceptics have long argued that the price of cryptocurrencies seems driven more by speculative fervour fuelled by easy monetary policy than by any fundamental factors. For instance, the extreme volatility in the price of cryptocurrencies was seen by many as a feature that ruled out the use of cryptocurrencies as money. Such extreme volatility simply seemed to reflect investor behaviour that bordered on gambling. These sceptics also pointed to the fact that even though cryptocurrency prices were rising aggressively, the use of cryptocurrencies for real-life transactions was low. So, in essence, there was very little reason to believe that the rally in cryptocurrencies was driven by their wider acceptability as an alternative to fiat currencies.

How do governments view cryptocurrencies?
Some sceptics have also argued that even though private cryptocurrencies can rise to the status of alternatives to fiat currencies over time, governments and central banks may not allow this to happen. Many countries have taken several steps to discourage the widespread use of cryptocurrencies. While countries such as China and Russia have opted to impose outright bans on cryptocurrencies, others such as India have tried to tax and regulate them heavily. In India, while the government has not imposed an outright ban on cryptocurrencies, the Reserve Bank of India has been quite vocal about the need to ban them completely. It is no surprise that central banks are wary of private cryptocurrencies since they challenge the monopoly that central banks currently enjoy over the money supply of an economy. If cryptocurrencies became widely acceptable, it would affect the control that central banks possess over the economy's money supply. It would also affect the ability of governments to fund their spending by creating fresh money as citizens could then opt to switch to alternative currencies.

Will cryptocurrencies rise again?
Cryptocurrency enthusiasts argue that cryptocurrencies such as Bitcoin have always been subject to extreme price swings and that the current crash is a good time to buy these virtual currencies at a tremendous bargain. To be fair, many crypto-enthusiasts have been handsomely rewarded in the past when they bought cryptocurrencies during times of panic selling. They argue that cryptocurrencies, just like gold, protect investors against the risk of price inflation. It should be noted that, unlike fiat currencies issued by central banks, the supply of various cryptocurrencies is limited by design. By holding their wealth in cryptocurrencies that either maintain their value or even appreciate in value over time, investors can protect themselves against the debasement of their wealth by central banks.

Sceptics, however, believe that the current crash could very well be the end of the road for cryptocurrencies. Even if cryptocurrencies manage to recover from the current crash, they may still not manage to hold on to their gains, because cryptocurrencies possess no fundamental value as money. In fact, some have argued that the real value of cryptocurrencies is somewhere close to zero. They point out that even the most popular cryptocurrencies such as Bitcoin are still not used very much in the daily purchase and sale of goods and services in the real economy. It should be noted that investors generally believe that the price of an asset gravitates towards its intrinsic or fundamental value in the long-run even though it may diverge from its fundamental value in the short-term.

Crypto-enthusiasts, however, argue that while cryptocurrencies may not be widely accepted as a currency, they still represent an independent asset class like gold that can help investors protect their wealth from central banks. This argument is still prone to the criticism that cryptocurrencies do not possess any independent value of their own to be compared to gold and silver, and thus cannot offer any wealth protection over the long-run.

Precious metals such as gold and silver are far more acceptable than cryptocurrencies, which is what gives them their intrinsic value. In fact, precious metals served as currencies for centuries and have been widely used for industrial and other purposes.

No cryptocurrency has such a record. The fact that precious metals are limited in supply definitely helped boost their value. But limited supply alone cannot make cryptocurrencies like Bitcoin a valuable asset like gold and silver.

EXPLAINER

The move to link credit cards with UPI

What are the primary motivations behind this move? Will the proposed linking increase the scope of the Unified Payments Interface?

THE GIST

- The Reserve Bank of India has proposed to allow linking of credit cards with the Unified Payments Interface platform.
- The UPI has become a popular mode of payment in India with more than 26 crore unique users and five crore merchants on the platform.
- Linking of credit cards with UPI is likely to increase the use of such cards in small-ticket-size payments, as it would provide users with more options to pay from. The move will provide a significant boost to overall spending via credit cards.

LALATENDU MISHRA

The story so far: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has proposed to allow linking of credit cards with the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) platform. The move is part of the central bank's efforts to enhance the scope of UPI. While announcing the move, RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das stated that RuPay credit cards issued by the RBI-promoted National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) will be enabled first, and will become available after system developments. The UPI, also managed by the NPCI, was first introduced in 2016.

What explains the effort to link credit cards with UPI?
The UPI has, over time, become a popular mode of payment in India with more than 26 crore unique users and five crore merchants on the platform. In May 2022, about 594 crore transactions amounting to ₹10.4 lakh crore were processed through the interface.

At present, the UPI facilitates transactions by linking savings/current accounts through users' debit cards. It is now proposed to allow linking of credit cards on the UPI platform. This is

intended to provide additional convenience to users and enhance the scope of digital payments.

When will the facility be made available?
This facility would be available after the required system development is complete. The RBI will issue necessary instructions to NPCI separately to facilitate the change. To begin with, the indigenous RuPay credit cards would be linked to the UPI platform. It is likely to be followed by other card networks such as Visa and MasterCard that would bring in more users.

What is the benefit of this provision?
The arrangement is expected to provide an additional avenue for payment to customers and hence enhance convenience. The linking of credit cards to UPI has been proposed to further deepen the reach and usage of credit cards.

Why do authorities expect this move to spur the use of credit cards?
It is expected to bolster transactions and acceptance at more merchant sites. People who generally prefer to pay by credit card so as to avail of a longer pay-back period or loans on credit-card outstanding, or who do not wish to touch their savings at the moment of purchase, can pay using credit cards via UPI.

Currently, many merchants do not have credit card point-of-sale (PoS) terminals especially in semi-urban and rural areas but a significant number do have the QR code-based UPI acceptance facility. Now, they too will be able to accept credit payments via UPI without needing a PoS device.

Linking of credit cards with UPI is likely to increase the use of such cards in small-ticket-size payments, as it would provide users with more options to pay from. The move will provide a significant boost to overall spending via credit cards – currently, spending through the use of credit cards is more than double the average spend via debit cards. More spending is generally a force multiplier for the economy.

Besides accelerating digital transactions this measure is also expected to affect the average ticket size of financial transactions. Currently the average ticket size per transaction is ₹1,600 while it is ₹4,000 in credit cards. So, with the new development the UPI transaction ticket size is likely to go up to somewhere around ₹3,000 to ₹4,000, analysts claim. Many people use credit cards for rewards and benefits and UPI for its convenience & security. The new provision of linking credit cards to UPI brings both these advantages together.

Kirana stores where credit cards are not accepted would likely find it convenient to accept credit card payments through UPI.

Will a merchant discount rate be applicable for these payments?
There is no word yet on the merchant discount rate (MDR) applicable on transactions using credit card numbers via UPI, other than for RuPay, which attracts no such charge. Today, since foreign card issuers such as Visa and MasterCard have a lion's share of the credit card network business, part of the fees goes to them. However, the Indian government has shown its intent to promote the indigenous RuPay card system. It remains to be seen if it indeed does turn out more economical for merchants to accept payments from users with credit cards from foreign issuers.

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A still from *Kaala*

FROM THE ARCHIVES

The audacity of regional films

Regional cinema represents India in a much more holistic and meaningful manner than Bollywood

NEHAL AHMED

THE GIST

- Bollywood, which is largely influenced by the ebbs and flows of the box office, has often failed to capture the social complexities of Indian society. On the other hand, Malayalam, Assamese, Bengali, Marathi and Tamil cinema, frequently depict gender, religious, caste and class disparities.
- Over the past few years, Bollywood has churned out many hyper nationalist films, films that misrepresent minority communities, and films that assert a certain culture, thus furthering the majoritarian nation-building project.
- Regional cinema on the other hand is constantly pushing boundaries with experimental takes on social and political issues.

As hyper-nationalistic and often historically inaccurate films like Samrat Prithviraj do poorly at the box office, regional cinema featuring many films with a more grounded approach to society is flourishing. In this article dated October 14, 2021, Nehal Ahmed details how regional films represent the different facets of Indian society much better than Bollywood.

For long, Indian cinema has been synonymous with Bollywood. However, the pandemic-induced growth of over-the-top (OTT) platforms has opened up new vistas for audiences to watch and appreciate films from other parts of the country. Bollywood, which is largely influenced by the ebbs and flows of the box office, has often failed to capture the social complexities of Indian society. It is still quite distant from the experiences and sensibilities of the masses. It generally follows an escapist approach, where storytelling becomes a commodity. On the other hand, Malayalam, Assamese, Bengali, Marathi and Tamil cinema, to name a few, frequently depict gender, religious, caste and class disparities.

This is not to say that fantasy, which provides a break from the dreariness of our daily lives, is not an important aspect of cinema. But it is the safe distancing of Hindi cinema from hard-hitting issues such as the atrocities committed against Dalits and Muslims, religious majoritarianism, sexual inclusivity and class barriers that are a major concern.

Pushing boundaries

The cinematic treatment of Bollywood has been formulaic. Films either derive inspiration from the West or are compelled by the process of globalisation. Over the past few years, Bollywood has churned out many hyper nationalist films, films that misrepresent minority communities, and films that assert a certain culture, thus furthering the majoritarian nation-building project.

On the other hand, regional cinema is constantly pushing boundaries with experimental takes on social and political issues. In recent years, Tamil cinema has revolutionised the art with larger social observations. Filmmakers like Mari Selvaraj, Pa. Ranjith and Vetrimaaran have produced films that explore the issues of the common man. They represent the voice of the subaltern without being apologetic unlike their counterparts in Bollywood.

The cinematic treatment of Bollywood has been formulaic. Films either derive inspiration from the West or are compelled by the process of globalisation

Mari Selvaraj and Pa. Ranjit are known for making films centred around Dalit lives. In the 1970s and '80s, there was a wave of parallel cinema in Bollywood which spoke of the victimisation of Dalits. However, in contemporary Tamil cinema, Dalits are not victims; they are assertive protagonists who actively fight back against upper caste assertion. Through his films *Kabali* and *Kaala* and most recently *Sarpatta Parambarai*, Pa. Ranjith has brought to us Dalit heroes, who are rare in Indian film history. Mari Selvaraj has established the normalisation of Dalit characters through *Pariyerum Perumal* and *Karnan*. These films further the politics of social justice in subtle ways instead of depicting communities as pitiable beneficiaries of certain policies and lacking in dignity.

Another regional industry which has resonated with the larger Indian audience is the Malayalam industry. Malayalam cinema is known to reflect on contemporary concerns and anxieties. Most Malayalam films have small budgets, but their impact is immense because of their fresh take on common people-centric stories. Jeo Baby's *The Great Indian Kitchen*, for instance, can be considered as one of the biggest disruptors of normative gendered labour and relations. While questioning regressive gendered practices, the filmmaker employs a layered and minimalist approach to drive the message home.

On the other hand, Bollywood's approach tends to be loud and sensational, with a greater focus on costume, set design, light, colour, and location than the subject at hand. In Dileesh Pothan's *Maheshinte Prathikaaram*, even the slippers of the character played by Fahad Faasil has an important role to play.

Regional films are often replete with metaphors and symbols.

Politics of majoritarianism

Today, when hyper nationalism is at its peak, Bollywood often acts as a tool in the hands of the majoritarian nation-building project.

Many Hindi films use the archaic trope of cultural assertion and continue to vilify a particular community while downplaying structural inequalities in society. This trend can be witnessed in the surge in period dramas and biopics of politicians and sportspersons where characters are overglorified. On the other hand, certain filmmakers in Bengali and Marathi cinema, through their politically heightened content, are challenging polarisation and the threat to India's diversity. Aparna Sen in her 2019 film, *Ghawre Bairey Aaj*, highlights the jingoism prevalent in the political ecosystem. Another important movie is Nagraj Manjule's *Sairat* which treats caste as a political issue.

Regional cinema has woven narratives in a socially conscious manner and has the potential to substantially disrupt class and caste hegemony and majoritarianism. It represents India in a much more holistic and meaningful manner than Bollywood.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

"Good morning, sir".

"Good morning. You are late today".

"Yes sir. I was searching my watch. It took time. At last I found it among my books".

"I am glad you found it. So you searched for your watch. You search for something when you have lost it. When a child doesn't return from school, the parents search for him. They look for the child. 'To search for' means 'to look for'. 'To search' means to 'examine thoroughly'.

The police searched the thief to find out if he had the stolen money on him".

" 'Sri Lanka is in the south of India'. Is this sentence all right, sir?"

"No. Sri Lanka is not in the south of India. If it were, it would be part of India. You should say 'Sri Lanka is to the south of India'. You can also say 'Sri Lanka is south of India'. But Trivandrum is in the south of India'.

"What's the difference between an 'accident' and a 'mishap' sir?"

"An accident is a chance occurrence; it is something unexpected. An accident can be lucky or unlucky or neutral.

It was just an accident that I met him when he was in a marvellous mood.

John met with an accident; he escaped with minor injuries.

I wonder whether serious attention should be paid to accidents of birth and beauty.

Accidents can be major or minor. A mishap is a minor accident. If someone is run over by a car, it is a serious accident; but it is not a mishap.

He hurt his knee during the cricket match, in spite of this mishap, he continued to play.

"What is the difference between 'for hire' and 'to let', sir?

"Boats, clothes, vehicles and such things are hired. When a house is available for rent a notice is put up that the house is 'to let'. Houses are let out or rented out but other things are given on hire. In America people also are "hired'. If they are not good, they are fired!"

"What's the meaning of 'to blow the whistle', sir?"

"To blow the whistle on something' is to expose or to put an end to something you don't approve of.

He blew the whistle on their unwholesome business activities.

The minister blew the whistle on gambling.

This expression is used only on informal occasions."

"How do you pronounce the first syllable of 'demon', sir?"

"It rhymes with fee, tea, bee and see. It Is deemon. Let's stop here. Goodbye".

"Thank you, sir. Goodbye".

THE DAILY QUIZ

Iceland observes June 17 as the National Day to commemorate the foundation of the Republic of Iceland on that date in 1944. A quiz on the Nordic island country.

1 If the blue in the Icelandic flag represents the mountains and the white ice or snow, what does the red stand for?

2 In the context of global politics, what first is attributed to Vigdís Finnbogadóttir who served as the fourth president of Iceland from 1980 to 1996?

3 Located at a latitude of 64°08', Iceland's capital is the world's northernmost capital of a sovereign state and its name means 'smoky bay'. Name it.

4 Founded in 930 CE, the Althingi is considered the oldest of its kind in the world. What is the Althingi?

5 The Imagine Peace Tower in Kollafjorour Bay near the Icelandic capital is a tower of light projected from a white stone monument that has the words "Imagine Peace" carved into it in 24 languages. It was installed in 2007 by the widow of a legendary man of music. Name the musician and his wife.

6 Many Icelandic place names end in "-foss". What natural feature would one associate with these places?

◄ At the height of the Cold War, this American came up trumps by beating a Russian in a World Championship match held at the Icelandic capital in 1972. Name him and event.

Please send in your answers to the **dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in**

Questions (abridged) and Answers of the previous day's daily quiz: 1. Delivered in 1963, by this well-known activist of the civil rights movement in America, this speech has a well-known refrain that symbolises the soul of the civil rights movement. **Ans: 'I have a dream', Martin Luther King Jr.**
2. This philosopher's most famous speech was delivered at the Parliament of the World's Religions in Chicago in 1893. **Ans: Swami Vivekananda**
3. This inspirational slogan was mentioned by Apple co-founder Steve Jobs in 2005 in his Stanford commencement address. **Ans: 'Stay hungry, stay foolish'**
4. The Gettysburg Address by Abraham Lincoln in 1863 contains a line that is often cited as the definition of democracy. **Ans: "... government of the people, by the people, for the people"**
5. This baseball player earned many of the sport's top awards before passing away at 37 after a brief battle with ALS. **Ans: Lou Gehrig**
6. "ask not what your country can do for you — ask what you can do for your country." was said by this U.S. President. **Ans: John F. Kennedy**
Visual; Gary Oldman is seen portraying this British leader in the film *Darkest hour*. **Ans: Winston Churchill**

Early Birds: Upaakti Dahraan| Shubham V. Bhosale| Akshay Jade| Pinaki Dasgupta| Riya Singh

Compiled by: V.V. Ramanan

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

BJP plans big Bengaluru push with Modi's visit ahead of polls

The Chief Minister has been on an inauguration spree of development projects

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

The Bharatiya Janata Party is planning a big Bengaluru push to launch its campaign for the upcoming civic polls and the 2023 Assembly polls, starting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the city on Monday.

The Prime Minister will address a public rally at Kommaghatta after laying the foundation stone for the much delayed ₹15,000-crore suburban rail project. The BJP has planned a grand welcome with a large number of workers in attendance after he lands at Yelahanka Air Force Base. Arun Singh, incharge of BJP Karnataka, is scheduled to arrive in the city on Friday and stay here till the Prime Minister leaves the State. "Ahead of civic polls in the city, the Prime Minister is coming to lay the foundation stone for a mega infrastructure project and we will definitely make the best use of it," a senior leader said.

The Supreme Court, on May 20, set a eight-week deadline for ward delimitation and reservation roster for Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) to be completed and elections be held subsequently, setting the stage for the civic polls in August-September 2022. BBMP has already submitted a draft of the delimited wards.

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai along with BBMP Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath checking development works in Bengaluru on Thursday. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Announcements made by CM since June 1

- Foundation stone for **₹15,000 crore** suburban rail project by PM on Monday
- Tenders for **₹15,000 crore** worth much-delayed Peripheral Ring Road in final stages
- A vision document to decongest the city
- **₹1,600 crore** for redoing storm-water drains
- A Special Task Force to clear encroachments of storm-water drains; the poor will be rehabilitated and encroachments by the rich will be ruthlessly demolished
- The State government will give bank guarantee for housing scheme beneficiaries through a **₹500 crore** loan
- 'Onti Mane' scheme by BBMP, where the civic body will provide financial assistance to the poor and for oppressed communities to build houses if they have land, will be restarted soon
- Government will abolish 'B' khata and issue 'A' khata for all properties in the city after a regularisation process
- Government will take all necessary measures to implement Akrama-Sakrama, presently pending before the Supreme Court and regularise revenue pockets

Series of inaugurations

Since then, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai, who also holds charge of the city, has gone on a development project-inauguration spree in Assembly constituencies represented by BJP in the city.

In the last 10 days, Mr. Bommai has inaugurated a slew of development works in Govindaraj Nagar, R.R. Nagar and Chickpet constituencies. More such events, including the inauguration of the first phase of K-100, a reimagining of storm-water drains in the city, are planned, sources said. "The plan is to project a development image for the government in the city and ensure the works are visible to the people. Most of the projects being inaugurated now are from the time of B.S. Yediyurappa and the Chief Minister is laying foundation stone for other new works as well," a senior civic official said.

Rains and after

The havoc created by recent rains in the city has left a bad taste in the mouth of the citizens and the pathetic condition of roads became a talking point in cyberspace too. To make a course correction in this image, the party has decided to push for a development agenda for the city, sources said. The Chief Minister was keen and pushed the filling of potholes and remaking roads on a war footing, as a first step, senior civic officials said. Laying the foundation stone for the much delayed mega infra-project suburban rail by Mr. Modi is part of the same campaign, officials close to the Chief Minister said.

At multiple events in the city over the last 10 days, the Chief Minister has been talking of a vision document to decongest Bengaluru, to improve connectivity with mega-infra projects of suburban rail and peripheral ring road and spending ₹1,600 crore to redo storm-water drains to prevent flooding. He has also announced a slew of welfare schemes like restarting "onti mane" scheme, government providing bank guarantee for beneficiaries of housing schemes and implementing Akrama-Sakrama, with an aim to woo the poorer sections, sources said.

Two elderly persons killed in separate accidents

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Two elderly persons were killed in separate road accidents in the city on Wednesday.

According to the police, Dasappa, 60, from Kolar had come to city to attend his relative's wedding.

After the function, he was walking to the bus stop near Chikkahalasuru cross around 9.30 p.m. when an unidentified vehicle knocked him down and sped away.

Passers-by noticed Dasappa lying dead in a pool of blood and informed the police. The Chikkajala traffic police rushed to the spot, shifted the body for post-mortem and registered a case of hit and run.

The police are verifying CCTV camera footage from in and around the area to identify the vehicle.

Second case

In another incident, Sandegappa, 69, a resident of Kalena Agrahara, was walking to a nearby bus stop after visiting his relative's house when a speeding autorickshaw knocked him down on Bannerghatta road.

Passers-by shifted the injured Sandegappa to a hospital where he succumbed later.

The Hulimavu police have registered a case and are investigating.

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Lalbagh's iconic floral clock to tick again

It stopped functioning seven months ago and will restart by June-end

JAHNAVI T.R.
BENGALURU

The almost four-decade old iconic floral clock, which was installed in Lalbagh Botanical Garden by Hindustan Machine Tools (HMT), will be back to its former glory by the end of this month.

The clock stopped functioning seven months ago during last year's rains. Although all related costs used to be borne by HMT before, post its closure, the Horticulture Department has been taking care of the clock. The clock was also repaired once before in 2018 due to seepage problems.

The floral clock was among the many installations like the tower clock and the solar clock done in various cities in the country by HMT during its functioning days.

"When HMT approached us, the Horticulture Department accepted its demand and created a new slope near the main gate at Lalbagh. The clock was installed there and it had a machine inside. The company was also bearing the running costs for several years, but after that the civil structure was abandoned before the department took over," said M. Jagadeesh, Joint Director (Parks and Gardens) Horticulture Department.

He added that as the Lalbagh lake breached last year after heavy rainfall, the low-lying area got submerged and the motors were damaged.

"After that, we requested HMT to repair it. Although they stopped their maintenance eventually, we now pay them around ₹2 lakh to ₹3 lakh a year for maintenance as they have to take care of the battery and other accessories. This time, they said there was some leakage and it should be repaired. The civil work is now going on at a cost of ₹1 lakh."

The almost four-decade old iconic floral clock was installed by Hindustan Machine Tools. • BHAGYA PRAKASH K.

> It is a heritage of Lalbagh and we are looking to continue to keep it the same way.
>
> M. JAGADEESH
> Joint Director (Parks and Gardens) Horticulture Department

Landmark structure

Throughout the years, along with the glasshouse and the lake, the floral clock has been a landmark structure in Lalbagh. For the revamping, the department is using alternanthera plants for the dial while using other coloured floral plants for the needles.

"It is a heritage of Lalbagh and we are looking to continue to keep it the same way," Mr. Jagadeesh said.

DRI busts gold smuggling racket

Officials confront passenger at KIA

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Officials of the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) on Tuesday unearthed a gold smuggling racket and arrested a 30-year-old passenger carrying 1.5 kg of gold paste worth ₹50 lakh.

Based on a tip-off, a team of officials rushed to the airport and confronted the passenger who had landed from Dubai. The police checked the mobile phone he was holding and found gold paste concealed in the phone cover.

The accused, hailing from Karnataka-Kerala border, had gone to Dubai on a visiting visa to search for a job. Sources said the accused, working as a carrier in the racket, was paid for the tickets and the job.

In a similar operation, DRI officials unearthed a currency racket and arrested a man boarding a Dubai flight with a bag containing currency worth ₹27 lakh in the form of dirhams and USD last Saturday.

Based on intelligence inputs, a team of officials caught the man from Bengaluru, who said that he was taking the cash in the bag to start a business in Dubai with business visa. However, upon checking the background of the accused, it was revealed that he did not have any business background.

The officials suspect that he is part of the hawala racket. The maximum number of currency to be carried is ₹3 lakh whereas the accused passenger had passed the departure check with a bag full of currency bundles. The CISF personnel who were deployed at the departure checkpoint are concerned about banned items but not about currency, sources said.

Two held for stealing batteries

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The Magadi Road police have arrested two persons and recovered 55 batteries, which they had stolen from Bescom transformers.

Based on a complaint from Bescom that 30 batteries were stolen within a span of 15 days in February this year, the police registered a case and tracked down the accused through CCTV footage.

The accused have been identified as Vinod and Jagadisha.

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Bejai - 08243567730 / 9845112681

Tanzanian woman held, drugs seized

Accused was overstaying illegally in city

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The Banaswadi police on Wednesday arrested a 30-year-old Tanzanian woman and seized 13 grams of MDMA crystals and a phone worth ₹1.3 lakh from her.

The accused, Fathima Omary, was waiting for her clients outside a coffee shop on Kammanahalli main road when the police, based on a tip-off, intercepted her.

The accused had come to the city on a tourist visa in 2018 and overstayed illegally since then.

She started peddling drugs to make money and is suspected to have been sourcing the drugs from her contacts in a neighbouring State, the police said.

Booked

The police booked her under the NDPS Act and efforts are on to track down her source and the network.

Karnataka among two States to host One Health pilot

The exercise, with focus on zoonotic diseases, will be launched on June 28; learnings from it will be used to develop a national framework

K.C. DEEPIKA
BENGALURU

Karnataka will be one of two States where the 'One Health' programme will be piloted, the other State being Uttarakhand.

Set to be launched on June 28, the pilot will be used to develop a national One Health Framework, a key objective of the One Health Support Unit initiated by the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD), Government of India.

The framework is aimed at improving national and State-level resource allocation and policy ecosystem on early prediction, detection, and diagnosis of zoonotic diseases through increased quality, availability, and utility of data evidence.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Atul Chaturvedi, Secretary, DAHD, said, "At the global level, four organisations –World Health Organization, Food and Agriculture Organization, World Organisation for Animal Health, and the United Nations Environment Programme – have joined together to work out strategies as far as the inter-relatedness and the way to move forward for One Health are concerned. As a concept, it is assumed that any health matters are all interrelated with each other and we cannot treat human, animal or wildlife health in isolation," he said.

A file photo of the Rapid Response Team in a locality affected by bird flu in Mysuru. The One Health Framework is aimed at improving resource allocation and policy ecosystem on early prediction, detection, and diagnosis of zoonotic diseases.

In India, the government has been taking many initiatives to arrive at implementing the One Health concept, he added. "Since the bridge between the human and wildlife health are the domesticated animals, which are the carriers of a lot of diseases between human beings and wildlife, or which starts from the livestock sector and gets transferred to human health, the DAHD decided to operationalise this concept where all three platforms start talking and reporting to each other and do capacity building so we start asking the right questions to each other," he explained.

Six specific interventions for One Health (OH) project

- Establishing an inter-sectoral coordination mechanism at the central and State-levels
- One Health Gap Assessment at the federal level and for selected States
- Pilot of One Health platform in selected States
- Integration with the digital architecture of the National Digital Livestock Mission
- Creating a roadmap for scaling up the OH programme at the national level
- Developing and implementing the OH communication strategy

Apart from an apex inter-ministerial governance committee chaired by the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India, a Project Steering Committee (PSC) chaired by the Secretary, DAHD, comprising of authorities from the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, ICAR, civil societies, international development organisations, and field practitioners. Along with this, there will be a State-Level One Health Committee.

The two States were chosen, said Mr. Chaturvedi, based on an exercise of identifying operational parameters – infrastructure related to diagnostic facilities, digital interventions, occurrences of zoonotic diseases, responsiveness, and proactive administration in responding to those diseases, and non-operational parameters such as human-animal interaction index, ecosystem health index, health infrastructure index, and livestock disease diversity index – on which all States were graded.

The top five States based on this were Uttarakhand, Karnataka, Assam, Maharashtra, and Odisha in that order, of which the top two States were chosen.

The pilot in Uttarakhand was launched in April. Based on the recommendations of the PSC, six interventions have been planned for the pilot in Uttarakhand and Karnataka, including institutionalising the mechanism for data collection on disease outbreak, prevalence, management, and development of targeted surveillance. It also entails integrating the network of laboratories with a focus on strengthening communication and lab testing capacities around zoonotic diseases, developing a communication strategy across sectors with an emphasis on livestock and animal health-related issues, and integration of the data with the digital architecture of the National Digital Livestock Mission to enable the analytics needed for the development of One Health Programme.

Police donate blood to acid attack victim

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Going beyond call of duty, a team of police from the Kamakshipalya station donated five units of blood to a victim of acid attack, who is scheduled to undergo another surgery on Friday.

The police team, probing the acid attack case, got to know about the requirement of blood and decided to help.

Th 23-year-old victim was severely injured in the acid attack on April 28 and was admitted to St. John's Hospital. She has undergone multiple surgeries so far.

The accused Nagesh, who was on the run, was tracked to Thirunalveli in Tamil Nadu, where he was hiding in a mutt.

Domestic workers raise their voice seeking rights

Participants at a protest meeting organised to mark International Domestic Workers Day, in Bengaluru on Thursday. •SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

Over 400 domestic workers from all over Karnataka took part in a protest meeting organised by the Joint Action Committee of the Domestic Workers' Unions here on Thursday on the occasion of International Domestic Workers Day.

Sharing their experiences, Radha, a domestic help, said, "Where I used to work earlier, they didn't even allow me to enter the kitchen because of my caste. They kept all the used utensils in the washroom area so that I can clean them from there. I was not allowed to use the washroom which I used to clean. Are we not human beings?"

Jahira, a domestic help from West Bengal, working here for the last 12 years, said, "During the pandemic, we were treated like carriers of the infection. On top of that, almost every week, the police would come to our slum, even at midnight, asking for ID cards."

Kapila, Munilaxmi, and other domestic help raised their voices for weekly holidays, bonuses, the dignity of labour, and other social justice as they were joined in with the slogan, "We are not slaves, we are not servants, and we also have the right to decent wages and recognition."

Geeta Menon, chairperson of the committee, said, "Every year, on International Domestic Workers Day, we stage protests, but India, till today, has not ratified the ILO convention which will pave the way for a strong legislation at the Central and State level."

Conman arrested

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

A 30-year-old man who used to steal vehicles up for sale on online websites was arrested by the police on Thursday.

The accused Manjunath N. was arrested based on a complaint by Adarsh, from Doddabommasandra, who had put up an ad to sell his motorcycle. The accused approached him as a buyer and escaped after taking the bike for test ride. The police nabbed the accused through the mobile phone number which he had taken in the name of another person.

T-20 match: Metro timings extended

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

In view of the T-20 cricket match between India and South Africa on Sunday in the city, Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Ltd. (BMRCL) will extend metro rail services till the early hours of Monday.

The BMRCL said in a release that the last train from the terminal stations – Baiyappanahalli, Kengeri, Nagasandra, and Silk Institute will depart at 1 a.m. (Monday) and from Nadaprabhu Kempegowda station, Majestic, at 1.30 a.m. towards all the four directions.

Further, the release said that for the benefit of the public as well as swift crowd clearance, the BMRCL will be issuing return journey paper tickets, priced ₹50 each, at all the metro stations from 3 p.m. onwards on Sunday. The paper tickets are valid for a single journey, originating at Cubbon Park metro station to any station from Sunday 10 p.m. onwards till the extended hours of Monday.

Further, the release said that the onward journey from any station to Cubbon Park metro station will be by means of tokens and smart cards at normal fares. However, the return journey from Cubbon Park station to any station will be by means of paper ticket only.

Two-day SBI Home Loan Utsav

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

A two-day Home Loan Utsav organised by the State Bank of India, Bengaluru Circle, will be held at SBI local head office premises, on St. Mark's Road, from Saturday. The inaugural programme will be held at 9.30 a.m. on Saturday.

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TENDER NOTIFICATION

IISc Medical School Foundation invites bids in two cover system through etender platform **https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app** from the reputed company / Individual Class I Contractor registered with KPWD/CPWD/MES/RAILWAYS for the work of **"Construction of RCC and Steel Structure Building works for the proposed IISc Medical School Foundation at IISc Campus, Bangalore"** of Tender No IISc-MSF/Tender-02/2022-23. Estimated Cost of Project is **Rs. 179,44,32,551.00**. Last date for uploading the tender is **5th July 2022** at **1500 hrs**. Any other details can be obtained from the office of the Admin Deans Main Building, **Indian Institute of Science**, Bangalore on all working days or e-mail office@iiscmedicalschoolfoundation.org and Contact No. 080-22933584.

Sd/-, Director, IISc Medical School Foundation

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

Tender Notice No. CN/03/2022 Dated: 10.06.2022

The undersigned on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tender through IREPS only for supply of following items: **Tender closing Time: 14:00 Hrs.**

Sl	Tender No.	Description in Brief	Qty.	Tender Due on
1	95225306A	Route LED signal unit as per RDSO Specn. No. RDSO/SPN/153/2011 REV. 4.1 or latest.	500 Nos.	01.07.2022
2	95225305	Shunt LED signal unit as per RDSO Specn. No. RDSO/SPN/152/2011 REV. 4.1 or latest.	559 Nos.	28.06.2022
3	95225304	LED signal lamps GREEN main as per RDSO Specn. No. RDSO/SPN/199/2010 REV 1.1 or latest.	442 Nos.	29.06.2022
4	95225303	LED signal lamps RED main as per RDSO Specn. No. RDSO/SPN/199/2010 REV. 1.1 or latest.	586 Nos.	08.07.2022

Corrigendum 1 to Tender Notice No. CN/02/2022 Dated: 03/06/2022.

In the above mentioned Tender Notice, for Tender No. 95225288 due on 16.06.2022 the following corrigendum is issued. Special condition: e PBG: 3% for warranty period plus 6 months duration. For further details please visit the website given below:

For details log on: **www.ireps.gov.in**

PUB/149/AAV/PRB/SWR/2022-23

Chief Materials Manager / Construction
Bengaluru Cantonment

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PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public are hereby informed that my client intend to buy the below mentioned Schedule property from **Mr.Sudarshan Gowda S. K**, Aged about 27 Years, **Mr.Hithesh Kumar S. K**, Aged about 24 Years and **Miss.Hrushikhi S.K**, Aged about 22 Years, all are children of **Sri.M Kemparaju**, All are R/at Samandoru Village, Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District. If any persons or Institution, Authority etc., have got any objections or claiming any right, title and interest of what so ever nature on the Schedule Property, are hereby required to communicate the same along with supporting documents to me at my Office within **(10) TEN days** from this day. Otherwise, the Sale transaction will be completed without any reference or regard to any such purported claim or interest, which shall be deemed to have been waived to all intents and purposes.

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **THARINI.N.**, (New Name) Previously called Thamini Residing at No.26, 2nd Cross, Saibabanagar, Srirampuram, Bangalore-560021, do hereby Changed my Name from Thamini to Tharini.N., for all practical purposes in future. Sworn before Notary, Onkarappa. N.R. on 25-04-2022 at Bangalore.

I, **TERENCE.A**, D O B 02-04-1990, S/o. Anthu Raj.T, R/o.#46, 2nd Main, 2nd Stage, Gowthamapura, Halasuru, Bengaluru-560008, have changed my name from Terence.A to Terence Kumar vide affidavit dt: 16-06-2022 before Notary A.R.Muneer Ahmed, B'luru.

I, **LALRINTLUANGI** R/o Flat 502, Orchid, HM World City Apartment, J.P nagar 8th phase, Bangalore - 560062 have changed my name to Jeonta Lalrinthuangi vide affidavit dt: 16.06.2022 sworn before Notary A.Manjula, B'lore

I **Vaiyapuri** Ramalingam Yeshwanth Raj S/O, Ramalingam Vaiyapuri R/o Villa 142, Alliance 10 Downing Kannamangala Kadugodi,bengaluru, 560067, have changed my name to Yeshwanth Raj for all purposes.

I, **Devaraju** R R/o # 405, A Block Avani Amulya Apartment, Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Bangalore 560098 have changed my minor daughter's name from Vibha Vismaya D Gowda to Krisha D Gowda for all purposes.

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF 13TH ADDL. CITY CIVIL JUDGE, MAYOHALL AT BANGALORE (CCH-22)
O.S.NO. 26149/2021

BETWEEN:
M/S. ICICI BANK LIMITED
Mittal Tower, M.G. Road, Bangalore- 560001, Represented by its Manager and power of Attorney Holder Mr. Pramodh G.
...Plaintiff

V/S.
Mrs. Aliya Sheikh ...Defendant

Summons To Defendent

Mrs. Aliya Sheikh D/o Mr. Syed Mohammed Baquer Ali, Aged About 34 Years, No. 553, Khazi Street, Mohammedan Block Basavanagudi, Bangalore-560004.

Whereas, the above named Plaintiff has filed a Civil Suit for Recovery of a sum of **Rs.15,60,109.68/- (Rupees Fifteen Lakhs Sixty Thousand One Hundred and Nine and Paise Sixty Eight Only)** apart from future interest of **18% p.a.**, in **O.S. No. 26149/2021** and same is pending adjudication in **CCH 22**, Before Addl. City Civil Court Mayohall, Bengaluru.

You are hereby summoned to appear before the Hon'ble Court on the 08th Day of July 2022 at 11:00 A.M. to answer to the same, if failed the suit will be decided in your absence, Exparte.

Given under my Hand and Seal of the Court this the **13th** Day of **June, 2022**

Deputy Registrar
City Civil Court Mayohall
BENGALURU- 560001

FX & CO., ADVOCATES,
New NO.9, OLD NO.11/1
Gover Road, Cox Town,
BENGALURU- 560005.

IN THE COURT OF 13th ADDL CITY CIVIL JUDGE, MAYOHALL AT BANGALORE (CCH-22)
O.S NO. 26501/2019

BETWEEN:
M/S. ICICI BANK LIMITED
Mittal Tower, M.G. Road, Bangalore- 560001, Represented by its Manager and power of Attorney Holder Mr. Pramodh G.
AND
Mr. Mohan S. Kumar
S/o. Srinivasan
Aged about 43 years
Sri Lakshmi No. 21, Ground Floor, Kylasanahalli, Byrathi, Bangalore-56077.

Whereas, the above named Plaintiff has filed a Civil Suit for Recovery of a sum of **Rs. 6,15,449.52/- (Rupees Six Lakhs Fifteen Thousand Four Hundred Forty Nine and Paise Fifty Two Only)** apart from future interest in **O.S. No.25501/2019** and same is pending in CCH 22, before Addl., City Civil Court Mayohall, Bengaluru.

You are hereby summoned to appear before the Hon'ble Court on the **15th Day of July, 2022** at **11:00 A.M.** to answer to the same, if failed the suit will be decided in your absence, Exparte.

Given under my Hand and Seal of the Court this the **10th day of June, 2022.**

Deputy Registrar,
City Civil Court,
Mayohall,
BENGALURU- 560 001

FX & CO., ADVOCATES,
New NO.9, OLD NO.11/1
Gover Road, Cox Town,
BENGALURU- 560 005.

IN THE COURT OF ADDL. SMALL CAUSES JUDGE, MAYOHALL AT BANGALORE (SCH-21)
S.C.NO. 15009/2022

BETWEEN:
M/S. ICICI BANK LIMITED
Mittal Tower, M.G. Road, Bangalore- 560001, Represented by its Manager and power of Attorney Holder Mr. Pramodh G.
AND
Mr. Chiranjivi
S/o. Mr. Narayanappa, Aged about 38 years, No.332/ 323/ 305/ 68 3rd Floor, 1st Cross, BBMP Office Back Side Virat Nagar, Bommanahalli, Near Ganesh Temple, Bangalore-560068.

Whereas, the above named Plaintiff has filed a Civil Suit for Recovery of a sum of **Rs.1,92,104.00/- (Rupees One Lakh Ninety Two Thousand One Hundred and Four Only)** apart from future interest of **18% p.a.**, in **S.C. No. 15009/2022** and same is pending adjudication in **SCH 21**, Before Addl. City Civil Court, Mayohall, Bengaluru.

You are hereby summoned to appear before the Hon'ble Court on the 08th Day of July 2022 at 11:00 A.M. to answer to the same, if failed the suit will be decided in your absence, Exparte.

Given under my Hand and Seal of the Court this the **7th** Day of **June, 2022**

Deputy Registrar
Small Causes Court, Mayohall
BENGALURU- 560001

FX & CO., ADVOCATES,
NEW NO.9, OLD NO.11/1
Gover Road, Cox Town,
BENGALURU- 560005.

IN THE COURT THE ADDL. CITY CIVIL JUDGE, MAYOHALL AT BANGALORE (CCH-75)
O.S. No. 25131/2020

Between:
M/s. ICICI BANK LIMITED
Mittal Tower, M.G. Road, Bangalore- 560001
Represented by its Manager and power of Attorney Holder
Mr. Pramodh G. ...Plaintiff

V/s.
Mr. Shyam Babu Konakala
...Defendant

SUMMONS TO DEFENDANT

Mr. Shyam Babu Konakala, S/o. Mr. Nageshwar Rao Konakala, Aged About 30 Years, No. 353, Kamalamma Building, 3rd Floor, Old Church Road, Marathahalli, Bangalore- 560037.

Whereas, the above named plaintiff has filed a Civil Suit for Recovery of a sum of **Rs. 10,74,486.09/- (Rupees Ten Lakhs Seventy Four Thousand Four Hundred Eighty Six and Paise Nine Only)** apart from future interest of 18% p.a., in **O.S. No.25131/2020** and same is pending adjudication in **CCH 75**, Before Addl. City Civil Court Mayohall, Bengaluru.

You are hereby summoned to appear before the Hon'ble Court on the 25th Day of July, 2022 at 11 A.M. to answer to the same, if failed the suit will be decided in your absence, Exparte.

Given under my Hand and Seal of the Court this the 1st day of June, 2022

Deputy Registrar,
City Civil Court, Mayohall,
BENGALURU-560001

FX & CO., ADVOCATES,
New No.9, OLD NO.11/1
Gover Road, Cox Town,
BENGALURU- 560 005.

IN THE COURT OF 13TH ADDL. CITY CIVIL & SESSIONS JUDGE, MAYOHALL AT BANGALORE (CCH-22)
O.S. No. 26253/2021

Between:
M/s. ICICI BANK LIMITED
Mittal Tower, M.G. Road, Bangalore- 560001
Represented by its Manager and power of Attorney Holder
Mr. Pramodh G. ...Plaintiff
V/s
Mr. Devreddy ...Defendant

SUMMONS TO DEFENDANT

Mr. Devreddy,
S/o. Mr. Mudukappa Chikka Kotnekal.,
Aged About 41 Years,
No. 130, Manvi Taluk, Manvi Raichur, BSNL Tower, Raichur-584123.

Whereas, the above named plaintiff has filed a Civil Suit for Recovery of a sum of **Rs. 6,12,079.76/- (Rupees Six Lakhs Twelve Thousand Seventy Nine and Paise Seventy Six Only)** apart from future interest of 18% p.a., in **O.S. No. 26253/2021** and same is pending adjudication Before Addl., City Civil & Sessions Judge Court, CCH-22, Mayohall, Bengaluru.

You are hereby summoned to appear before the Hon'ble Court on the 29th Day of June 2022 at 11 A.M. to answer to the same, if failed the suit will be decided in your absence, Exparte.

Given under my Hand and Seal of the Court this the 13th day of June 2022

By Order of Court
Deputy Registrar,
City Civil Court, Mayohall,
BENGALURU-560001

FX & CO., ADVOCATES,
New No.9, OLD NO.11/1
Gover Road, Cox Town,
BENGALURU- 560 005.

IN THE COURT OF THE ADDL. CITY CIVIL JUDGE, MAYOHALL AT BANGALORE (CCH-22)
O.S. No. 25829/2021

Between:
M/s. ICICI BANK LIMITED
Mittal Tower, M.G. Road, Bangalore 560001
Represented by its Manager and power of Attorney Holder
Mr. Pramodh G. ...Plaintiff
V/s.
SK APPARELS & ANOTHER
...Defendant

SUMMONS TO DEFENDANTS

To,
1. S K APPARELS & ANOTHER,
Represented by its partner,
Mr. Dev Magaji, 10/1, 1st Cross, Nehru Nagar, Sheshadripuram, Bangalore-560020.
2. Mr. DEV S MAGAJI
S/o. Magaji Ambaswamy Sridhar, Aged about 36 Years, 35, Shivasadan, Near Public School, RMV 2nd Stage, Bangalore-560094

Whereas, the above named plaintiff has filed a Civil Suit for Recovery of a sum of **Rs. 9,49,515.34/- (Rupees Nine Lakhs Forty Nine Thousand Five Hundred Fifteen and Paise Thirty Four Only)** apart from future interest of 18% p.a., in **O.S. No.25829/2021** and same is pending adjudication Before Addl., City Civil in CCH 22, Court, Mayohall, Bengaluru.

You are hereby summoned to appear before the Hon'ble Court on the 15th Day of July 2022 at 11 A.M. to answer to the same, if failed the suit will be decided in your absence, Exparte.

Given under my Hand and Seal of the Court this the 13th day of June 2022

Deputy Registrar,
City Civil Court, Mayohall,
BENGALURU-560001

FX & CO., ADVOCATES,
New No.9, OLD NO.11/1
Gover Road, Cox Town,
BENGALURU- 560 005.

IN THE COURT OF 13th ADDL. CITY CIVIL & SESSIONS JUDGE MAYOHALL AT BANGALORE (CCH-22)
O.S NO. 25347/2020

BETWEEN:
M/S. ICICI BANK LIMITED
Mittal Tower, M.G. Road, Bangalore- 560001, Represented by its Manager and power of Attorney Holder Mr. Pramodh G.
...Plaintiff

V/S.
Mr. Konda Chenna Reddy
...Defendant

Summons To Defendant

Mr. Konda Chenna Reddy
S/o. Mr. Ramakrishna Reddy.,
Aged About 31 Years,
No. 55, Ground Floor, Survey No. 85, Sai Ram Layout, Behind Sidles, Parallel Road, Off SGR Dental College, Munnekolala, Marathahalli, Bangalore- 560037.

Whereas, the above named Plaintiff, has filed a Civil Suit for Recovery of a sum of **Rs. 3,83,876.33/- (Rupees Three Lakhs Eighty Three Thousand Eight Hundred Seventy Six and Paise Thirty Three Only)** apart from future interest of 18% p.a., in **O.S. No. 25347/2020** and same is pending adjudication Before Addl. City Civil & Sessions Judge Court, CCH 22 Mayohall, Bengaluru.

You are hereby summoned to appear before the Hon'ble Court on the **08th Day of July, 2022** at **11:00 A.M.** to answer to the same, if failed the suit will be decided in your absence, Exparte.

Given under my Hand and Seal of the Court this the **13th day of June, 2022.**

By order of Court
Deputy Registrar,
City Civil Court,
Mayohall,
BENGALURU- 560 001

FX & CO., ADVOCATES,
New NO.9, OLD NO.11/1
Gover Road, Cox Town,
BENGALURU- 560 005.

IN THE COURT OF THE ADDL. CITY CIVIL & SESSIONS JUDGE, MAYOHALL AT BANGALORE (CCH-75)
O.S. No. 25378/2020

Between:
M/s. ICICI BANK LIMITED
Mittal Tower, M.G. Road, Bangalore- 560001
Represented by its Manager and power of Attorney Holder Mr. Pramodh G. ...Plaintiff
Ms. Sumaya Banu ...Defendant

SUMMONS TO DEFENDANT

To,
Ms. Sumaya Banu
D/o. Mr. Mukthar Pasha.,
Aged About 32 Years,
#74, 9th Main, Near Anjaneya Temple, Mathikere, MSRIT, Bangalore-560054.

Whereas, the above named plaintiff has filed a Civil Suit for Recovery of a sum of **Rs.5,34,044.85/- (Rupees Five Lakhs Thirty Four Thousand Forty Four and Paise Eighty Five Only)** apart from future interest of 18% p.a., in **O.S. No.25378/2020** and same is pending adjudication Before Addl., City Civil & Sessions Judge Court, CCH75, Mayohall, Bengaluru.

You are hereby summoned to appear before the Hon'ble Court on the 27th Day of July 2022 at 11 A.M. to answer to the same, if failed the suit will be decided in your absence, Exparte.

Given under my Hand and Seal of the Court this the 1st day of June 2022

By Order of Court
Deputy Registrar,
City Civil Court, Mayohall,
BENGALURU-560001

FX & CO., ADVOCATES,
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LEGAL NOTICE

THE PRINCIPAL DISTRICT MUNSIF COURT OF TIRUPPUR.
O.S. NO. 135 / 2020

S. GOVINDASAMY ...PLAINTIFF
-V/s-
1) **A. Noorulla Ghani,**
S/o. Abdul Ghani, D.No. 225, 5th main cross, L.B.Shastri Nagar, Vimanapura, Bangalore North, Karnataka State- 560 017.
2) **A. Mohammed Younus Khan,**
S/o. Ayub Khan, D.No. 91, 1st cross, Anepalya, Neelasandra, Bangalore South, Vivek Nagar, Bangalore, Karnataka State - 560 047.
...DEFENDANTS

SUMMONS TO DEFENDANTS

The above named plaintiff has filed a suit for declaration, mandatory injunction and for other relief against you on the file of The Principal District Munsif court of Tirupur, Tirupur District, Tamilnadu vide O.S.No. 135/ 2020. The above suit is posted to 04/07/2022 for appearance of Defendants. Hence, both of you are hereby called upon to appear before the above court at 10.30 A.M., either in person or by pleader to canvass your defence if any. If you are failed to appear before the court on the day fixed as above, the suit will be decided as exparte against you both.

K. SUBBARAYAN. B.A., B.L.,
D. NAVANEETHAN, M.B.A., LLB.,
ADVOCATES.
TIRUPPUR - TAMILNADU.

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MANAGING DIRECTOR

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BENGALURU

FRIDAY, JUN. 17
RISE 05:54 SET 18:47
RISE 22:00 SET 08:41

SATURDAY, JUN. 18
RISE 05:54 SET 18:47
RISE 22:52 SET 09:46

SUNDAY, JUN. 19
RISE 05:54 SET 18:48
RISE 23:38 SET 10:45

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	31	21
Mysuru	31	20
Bengaluru	31	21

Bengaluru Today
29°C A slight warm and humid weather to prevail. Night will be pleasant. Spell of rain and thundershower is possible.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
28°C The weather will be comfortable but humid. Night will be pleasant. Few spells of moderate rain and thundershower to occur.

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Text & Context
A weekday feature on *The Hindu* epaper (epaper.thehindu.com) which includes explainers, special articles and a quiz. In the latest issue (June 17, Friday), the following explainers are available:

- RBI's move to link credit cards with UPI
  bit.ly/creditcardupi
- The reasons behind the crashing crypto market
  bit.ly/cryptocrashburn

ONLINE EXCLUSIVES
Explainer
- The Agnipath scheme for armed forces
  bit.ly/3MWMcSk

Video
- How serious is the world food crisis?
  bit.ly/3NWMSZt
- Why should India's trade deficit matter to you (yes, You)?
  bit.ly/3xS4waZ
- *You can use your smartphone's inbuilt features to access these articles. If it's an Android phone, use Google Lens to read and tap the url to access the article. If it's an iPhone, use Live Text to do the same.*

The long wait for students who returned from Ukraine continues

Committee headed by RGUHS V-C to help in rehabilitation has never met

JAYANTH R.
BENGALURU

A cloud of uncertainty hangs over thousands of students who were forced to return from Ukraine earlier this year following the Ukraine-Russia war. Continuation of the war, coupled with the delay in the government's decision on rehabilitation, has cast a shadow over their education.

Since being evacuated to the safety of their homes, most students, barring those who studied in Ukrainian universities in the eastern parts, are attending online classes.

Inchara Raj, a resident of Kanakapura and the I[st] year medical student of Bukovinian State Medical University at Chernivtsi, said, "Our university is conducting online classes since the second week of March, and also held online exam. I have written bio-chemistry exam through in-camera online mode. I attended one month practical classes in JSS Medical college, Mysuru. But the uncertainty over the government's decision is causing a lot of worry."

But those students belonging to areas in the war zone are worse affected. A student from Kharkiv National Medical University, which is in war zone of Ukraine, and partially destroyed, said, "I don't have any hope for our university. Most of our university has been destroyed. University officials said they will shift us to other medical universities in Ukraine. But I am really scared."

Panel yet to meet

In April, the Karnataka government formed a committee headed by the Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences (RGUHS) Vice-Chancellor to make necessary rehabilitation arrangements for the Ukraine returnees. However, the committee has not met even once.

RGUHS V-C M.K. Ramesh told *The Hindu*, "The Ukraine issue comes under the Central government. So, we are waiting for the Central government guidelines."

On the other hand, BLDE deemed-to-be University, Vijayapura, has offered theory and practical classes for the Ukraine students on a temporary basis, while JSS Medical college, Mysuru, has offered one-month practical classes for those students.

The ray of hope now is the Supreme Court of India, which directed the National Medical Council in May to take appropriate action about the future education of the Ukraine-returned students within two months.

Ayesha Huda, the mother of a Ukraine returned student from Bengaluru, said, "Students, especially in the higher classes, are in a bad state. As a parent, I request the Union and State governments to accommodate our children here with affordable fees. We don't want to send them anywhere outside the country."

FROM PAGE ONE

'Upper caste' people in Bidar village boycott anganwadi

Anganwadi helper Milanbai (right) along with teacher Sumitra at Hatyal anganwadi in Basavakalyan taluk on Thursday. • ARJUN KULKARNI

They even made an alternative arrangement by assigning food preparation task to an "upper caste" volunteer from the local Stree Shakti Sangha, while insisting that the helper be replaced. As a pressure-building measure, they have now stopped sending their children to the anganwadi.

"I went to the house of each child and requested the parents to send their children to the anganwadi. But none did so. Earlier also, I used to sit idle after cleaning the premises as I was not allowed to cook," Ms. Milanbai told *The Hindu*. "We don't know what to do," said Ms. Sumitra, who also belongs to the Dalit community. The villagers have no issues with her since she does not cook. The villagers want Ms. Milanbai transferred and a Maratha appointed in her place.

Ms. Milanbai is worried not only about the distance she will have to travel if she is transferred, but also the caste discrimination she will face there. "If I cannot work in my own village, just think of my condition if I am transferred to an unfamiliar village," she said.

In general category

While the villagers refused to comment on the issue, Srikanth, Child Development Project Officer, said: "According to the people in the village, their resistance is not to the helper being a Dalit but for fair representation. Ms. Milanbai is appointed in the general category on merit." "There are three anganwadis, two in the village and the third one in the nearby hamlet, and all the teachers and helpers are from the dalit community. Non-Dalit communities want representation," said Mahesh Mule, a local gram panchayat member.

CET: 'Biology paper easy, Maths tough'

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

The Common Entrance Test (CET 2022) gateway to becoming eligible for seeking entry into professional courses in the State to seek admission into Engineering, Agriculture, Veterinary, Pharmacy and other courses, took off to a smooth start on Thursday across the State in 486 centres.

Out of 2,16,559 registered candidates, 1,75,305 (80.95%) candidates appeared for biology and 2,08,032 (96.06%) candidates appeared for the mathematics test.

Students said while biology was easy, the maths paper was moderately tough. Vasundhra, a student, said, "The biology paper was pretty easy. Studying thoroughly from the NCERT textbook was the only way to ace the paper. I hope to score well in this paper."

Students at a CET centre in Bengaluru. • SUDHAKARA JAIN

Ujjawala, another student, said, "I felt the maths paper was a little difficult. I did not prepare from NCERT text, but rather the different modules that my college had given me. The given time limit was not sufficient for me."

Experts seemed to agree. Milind Chippalakatti, National Head, Knowledge Management, Deeksha, said, "Overall, the biology paper was easy. An average student can score about 30 to 35 marks out of 60 marks. There were no out of syllabus questions and all were framed as per the NCERT textbook. The mathematics paper was easy to moderate in nature but a few questions were lengthy in calculation. While 40 questions were easy to answer, 11 were moderate and 9 were difficult. ."

On Friday, the physics and chemistry exams will be conducted.

Karnataka Assembly turns 70

Accepting defeat gracefully, Gopal Gowda, despite not having strength to win, justifies his decision to contest the election since the Congress had not reached out to the Opposition to have an unanimous election for the post of the Speaker.

Even the Speaker's election was conducted in a confusion as members were not aware how much time they were allocated for elections and sought clarification from the interim Speaker.

A couple of members wanted to know if members were absent when their names were called would they be allowed to vote again.

Five Ministers

The government headed by Hanumanthaiah had five Ministers - T. Siddalingaiya (Industries), A.G. Ramachandra Rao (Law and Education), T. Channiah (Public Health and Local Self Government), Kadidal Manjappa (Revenue and Public Works), and H. Sidda Veerappa (Home Affairs and Agriculture). Later, the House Committee, Committee on Privileges, Committee on Public Accounts and Estimates Committee were formed. The first Chief Minister of Mysore State K.C. Reddy, Kadidal Manjappa who briefly succeeded Hanumanthaiah as Chief Minister later and the future Chief Mminister D. Devaraja Urs representing Hunsur were in the first Assembly.

Later, after the re-organisation of the States in 1956, the strength increased to 208, which increased to 216 in 1967, and 224 in 1978.

Delegation meets Governor

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

A delegation of writers and academicians, led by Tumakuru Congress leader Muralidhara Halappa, called on Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot at the Raj Bhavan and briefed him about the delay in the completion of a campus of the Tumkur University and vacancies of various posts, including that of the Vice-Chancellor, in the university.

The State government had sanctioned the university in 2004 and granted 240 acres at Bidarakatte Kaval near Nagavalli for the construction of the campus. The foundation stone was laid in 2016 by allocating ₹40 crore. But the campus has not been completed, they said, in a memorandum to the Governor, who is also Chancellor of the university.

They urged the Governor to give directions to the Higher Education Department and university officials to expedite the work.

The Governor assured the delegation that he would visit the university to gather first-hand information about the construction of the new campus, Mr. Halappa said.

THE HINDU
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BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Health Officer(East), 9th Floor, PU Building, MG Road, Bengaluru-560 001.
No: HO(E)/PR/111/2022-23 Date:16.06.2022
CANCELLATION OF TENDERS
Tenders published in this newspapers on 31.05.2022 vide Ref. Nos: 1) HO(E)/PR/111/2022-23 (HO(E)/Tend/-MC/01-56/22-23) Dated: 25.05.2022 and 2) CHO (GH)/PR/62/2022-23 Dated: 09.06.2022. These tenders called through e-procurement portal for Controlling of Mosquitoes in East Zone are cancelled due to technical reasons.
Sd/- Health Officer, East Zone.
STAY PROTECTED FROM COVID-19. NO CARELESSNESS UNTIL THERE IS A CURE.
Wear Mask | Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN:U40109KA1999SGC025521)
No: SEE/Tr(M)/BMAZ(N)/EE(O)/AE/F-98(7)/22-23/2739-42 Dt: 15.06.2022
TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through e-Procurement Portal only)
KPTCL invites bid against enquiry no.: KPTCL/SEE/TR(M)/BMAZ(N)/EE(O)/AE/22-23/EPR-15-18 Date: 15.06.2022 for the work of **"Providing intermediate towers to increase vertical clearance of existing 220kV & 66kV lines at various hazardous locations pertaining to TLM sub-division, KPTCL, Rajajinagar in TL&SS Division, SRS Peenya in different packages"** coming under jurisdiction of BMAZ North Circle, Bengaluru.
The detailed notification regarding the subject tenders can be got by logging on to **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** with hyperlink **"e-Procurement-KPTCL"** or to **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **20.06.2022**.
Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Ele), Trans. (Maint.), BMAZ, North Circle, KPTCL, Office Complex, Ground Floor, A.R. Circle, Bengaluru-09.

Office of the Director, Department of Pre-University Education
Sampige Road, 18th Cross, Malleshwaram, Bengaluru-560012.
No.: DPUE/EST10/LEGALCELL/2020-ADMN Date: 15.06.2022
APPOINTMENT NOTIFICATION
Applications are invited from qualified candidates for appointment of Advocates on contract basis to work as Assistant to Government Advocate and as Legal Consultant for all the court cases related to the Department of Pre-University Education (including office of Deputy Director of all Districts). The contract period shall be fixed for 11 months, which could be extended further based on the performance, with additional incentive of 5% annually and on mutual agreement. Details of the posts, qualification, experience, area of specialization, consolidated remuneration and other terms & conditions can be seen in the Notification published in the official website **www.pue.karnataka.gov.in** and application format can be downloaded from this website. The filled applications along with relevant documents must be submitted **within 15 days** from the date of publication of this Notification in the newspaper either in person or through registered post/speed post to "Director, Department of Pre-University Education, Sampige Road, 18th Cross, Malleshwaram, Bengaluru-560012" superscribing on the envelope as (Application for the appointment of Advocate on contract basis).
Sd/- Director, Department of Pre University Education
DIPR/DD-C.P/935/MCA/2022-23

MANDYA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES MANDYA
(Autonomous Medical Institution, Government of Karnataka)
Phone: 08232-231003, 222086, 231197, 224040,
Fax: 08232-231001
E-Mail Address: mimsmandyaoffice@gmail.com , mimsmandya@gmail.com
RE-TENDER NOTIFICATION
TWO COVER BID SYSTEM
No:MIMS/Sup(2)/Patho/RE-tender/Chem&Reagents/13/21-22 Dated:08.06.2022
Mandya Institute of Medical Sciences (MIMS), Mandya, invites E-tender for Supply of Chemicals, Reagents, Kits, Glass Wares & Instruments to the Pathology Dept of MIMS Mandya from the Manufacture/s or Authorized Dealers in two cover bid system as per The Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act-1999 and Rules thereunder. The Approximate Tender cost is **Rs.90.00 Lakhs** The EMD payble in the e-portal is **Rs.1,80,000/-.** Submission of E-tender by paying Non refundable Fees starts from **13.06.2022** and the last date for filing of Tenders is **28.06.2022 up to 5.30 P.M.** For details, See e-procurement portal **website:www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** For Further details and clarifications in this regard office of the Director, Mandya Institute of Medical Sciences, Mandya may be contacted during working hours (Except General Holidays)
Sd/-Chief Administrative Officer,
Mandya Institute of Medical Sciences, Mandya,
DIPR/AD-MDY/MC&A/104/2022-23

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
DISTRICT URBAN DEVELOPMENT CELL
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER AND DISTRICT MAGISTRATE,BELAGAVI DISTRICT, BELAGAVI
Telephone no:0831-2407279 E-Mail:dudc_bgm@yahoo.co.in
No: BGM/DUDC/5/CR-25/2021-22 Dated:15-06-2022
Tender Notification
The Executive Engineer, District Urban Development Cell, Belagavi District invites tender in two cover system using KW-4 Documents for Chief Minister Amrut Nagarothana (Municipality) Phase-4 Project works as detailed below:- (Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl. No	Description of works	Amount Put to Tender (Excluding GST)	Earnest Money Deposit
1	Improvements of Road and Drain Works in Nippani City Municipal Council limits. (Tender No.DMA/2022-23/RD/WORK_INDENT 132220)	1012.49	15.00

Contractors can download and submit the tenders through e-Procurement portal at www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in. Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) and Tender Processing Fee shall also be paid electronically. Calendar of Events and other information are as follows:

1	Period of completion including rainy season	18 Calendar Months
2	Last Date for submission of tenders	15-07-2022 up to 17.00 hrs.
3	Date of Opening of Tenders (Technical Bids)	16-07-2022 at 17.01 hrs.

Postponement of calendar of events (if any) is only through e-Procurement portal and will not be published in newspapers.
Sd/-EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
Distirct Urban Development Cell, Belagavi

Government of Karnataka
(Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Department)
Office of the Executive Engineer,
Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Division, Shivamogga
No: EE/RWSS/Dvn/SMG/JE/JJM/E-Proc/2021-22/581 Date : 15.06.2022
TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through e-procurement)
On behalf of Governor of Karnataka, tenders have been invited as per Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 2000 to undertake the following works in the limits of Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Division, Shivamogga under Jal Jeevan Mission Project.
Indent Nos.: 1) 41030 2) 41047 3) 41006 4) 41029 5) 41032 6) 41008 7) 41012 8) 41013 9) 41018 10) 41019 11) 41073 12) 41077 13) 40981 14) 41004 15) 41005 16) 40997 17) 40872 18) 35847 call3 19) 39092 call2 20) 37411 call2
Tender details, terms and conditions, corrigendum or changes are available on website : https://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in and the eligible contractors/bidders should submit their bids and required documents on e-portal only.
Tender Schedules :
(1) Last date for receiving tenders from contractors : **23/28/29.06.2022 at 5.30 P M.** (2) Date of opening of Single cover Financial Bid : **25/30.06.2022 at 11.30 A. M.** (3) Date of opening of Double cover Technical Bid : **30.06.2022 & 01.07.2022 at 11.30 A M.** (4) Date of opening of Double cover Financial bid : **02/03.07.2022 at 11.30 A M.** (5) Time fixed for completion of works : **Single Cover : 3 months (90 days) Double cover: 3 months (90 days) (40872 Double cover: 6 months (180 days)**
DIPR/SMG/No.90-06 zenkar/2022-23
sd/- Executive Engineer,
Rural Drinking Water and Sanitation Division, Shivamogga

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN:U40109KA1999SGC025521)
No.:EE(E)/HD/TL&SS/AEE(O)/AE(T)/22-23/TLSD/F-21/801-03 Date: 06.06.2022
PUBLIC NOTICE
KPTCL is a company wholly owned by Government of Karnataka. As per C.E.A's annexure, KPTCL is supplying electricity in different voltage capacity (400/200/66kV) to Bengaluru and surrounding areas through overheads and underground cables.
There are several overhead lines in Bengaluru and surrounding areas, it has come to the notice of KPTCL, that, public are constructing new buildings, living in the present buildings and involved in other activities close to those overhead lines. Due to this, the number of electrical accidents are increasing day by day and many people's lives and their properties are at risk.
KPTCL does not encourage constructing buildings, planting trees or involving other activities near high voltage lines as such actions may result in the increase of electric accidents. Such accidents may result in the loss of lives or property. We would like to make it clear that, KPTCL will not be held responsible for any accidents and that the owners of those buildings / people residing in those buildings will be held responsible for the same.
Constructing buildings / temporary sheds close to electric towers or lying banners and buntings to the tower are extremely dangerous. Public are hereby requested to inform nearest KPTCL office if they see any such activities.
Walking, flying kites and drying clothes on top of the buildings constructed close to or below HT power lines is very dangerous, one will be subjected to arcing zone of high voltage lines which will result in casualties or even death. Such incidents are frequently reported in many newspapers and other mediums. So, in order to stop such accidents, owners / residents of such buildings should not allow anyone to walk on such buildings and if possible they should close the ways to that leads to the terrace.
As per annexure of C.E.A (Measures relating to Safety and Electric supply) Regulations 2010 construction of buildings below present EHT power lines is illegal. As mentioned in the rules, the owners of the buildings that are constructed close to and below the EHT power lines should see that, the minimum horizontal distance of such buildings should be more than the below given limits.

Clearance	66KV	220KV	400KV
Horizontal	2.3 Metres	3.8 Metres	5.6 Metres

As per C.E.A regulations, it is the responsibility of every citizen to maintain minimum horizontal distance as mentioned above. In view of safety, it is informed to clear such buildings that are built illegally. Otherwise, the owners will be held responsible for any future accidents, interruption in power supply etc., and police complaint will be registered against the offenders and necessary action will be taken as per law.
This notification is issued in public interest.
Sd/- Executive Engineer(Elecl.)
KPTCL, TL-SS Division, Hoody, Bangalore-560 048.

Published by N. Ravi at Kasturi Buildings, 859 & 860, Anna Salai, Chennai-600002 and Printed by C. Sridhar at Plot No. 13-D, Bommasandra-Jigani Link Road, KIADB Industrial Area, Bommasandra, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-560099 on behalf of THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., Chennai-600002. Editor: Suresh Nambath (Responsible for selection of news under the PRB Act).
RN No. KARENG/2010/49945 • ISSN 0971 - 751X

Bengaluru's suburban rail dream inches closer to reality

After decades of wait, foundation stone for the project to be laid on June 20

Air-conditioned, metro-like trains

As per the mandate given, K-RIDE will involve private players in the operation of metro-like AC trains. However, a section of people argues that running only AC coaches and collecting fares on a par with metro fares will go against the interest of the general public. They say suburban trains should be made more affordable by running non-AC coaches.

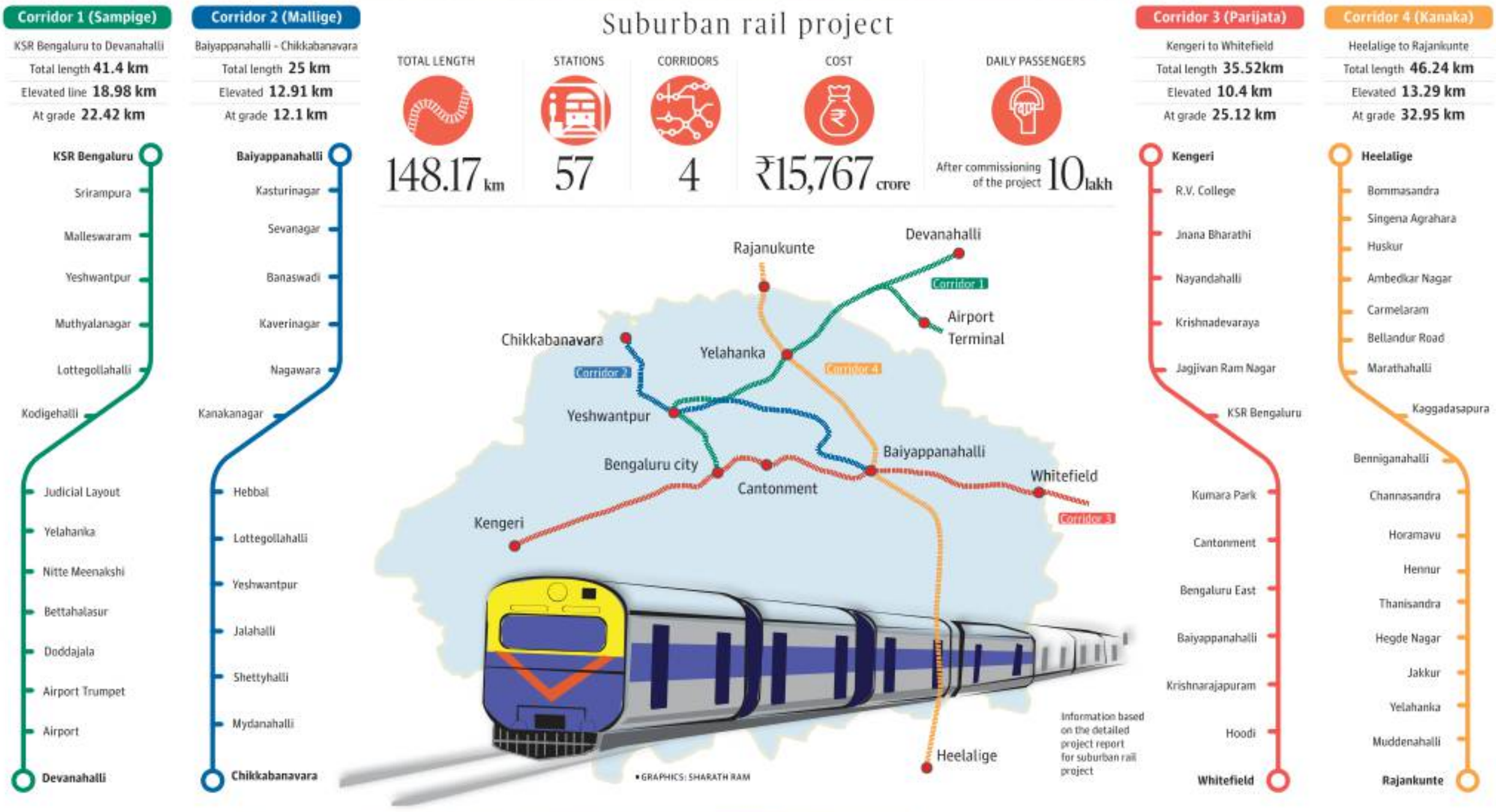
Bringing the project in six years

The implementing agency, K-RIDE, has a target to bring the suburban rail project in 2,190 days (six years). Will K-RIDE be able to meet the deadline is the big question. An SWR official said, "The suburban rail project comes with various challenges, prominent among them is K-RIDE building its network along the one that is operational. This itself is a huge task. In densely populated areas along the Kengeri-Whitefield line, especially in the central business district, there are several buildings located on either side of the tracks. Shifting of utilities in such places will likely involve challenges."

Rail activist Sanjeev Dyamannavar said, "The suburban rail project is a long-pending demand. Unfortunately, successive governments failed to implement the project. Way back in 1998, surveys for providing local trains for the city were conducted, but the proposal faced several hurdles for over two decades. When the Central government gave the green signal for implementing the project in 2020, everyone expected that it would be expedited, but that did not happen. All the authorities concerned should work in unision to make suburban rail network a reality as early as possible."

Future expansion

The DPR prepared for the project states that though the suburban rail network is restricted to Bengaluru city limits, it can be extended considering the future ridership once the lines become operational. It states that KSR Bengaluru to Devanahalli line may be extended up to Chickballapur, Baiyappanahalli to Chikkabanavara line may be extended up to Tumakuru, Kengeri-Whitefield line up to Ramanagaram on the south-western side and Malur/Bangarpet in the north-eastern side. The Heelalige-Rajankunte line may be extended up to Doddaballapur on the northern side and up to Hosur on Heelalige side.



Mass transport: A file photo of commuters at Baiyappanahalli railway station in Bengaluru. K-RIDE, the implementing agency, has been given the target to complete the suburban rail project in six years.

SUCHITH KIDIYOOR
BENGALURU

Offline and online campaigns carried out by citizens and rail activists in Bengaluru compelled both the State and Union governments to approve the suburban rail project in the city. The Centre gave its nod to the project in October 2020. On June 20, 2022, the suburban rail network will inch closer to becoming reality as Prime Minister Narendra Modi will lay the foundation stone for the project.

The project, which comprises four corridors and is estimated to cost ₹15,767 crore, will be implemented by Rail Infrastructure Development Company (Karnataka) Ltd. (K-RIDE), a joint venture of the State government and the Ministry of Railways.

In Phase I, K-RIDE will take up the civil works of Corridor - 2, named Mallige; this network will be built from Baiyappanahalli to Chikkabanavara. The rest of the three lines – KSR Bengaluru to Devanahalli, Kengeri to Whitefield, and Heelalige to Rajankunte – will be taken up for construction at a later stage.

A K-RIDE official said civil works would initially start from points such as Hebbal, Yeshwantpur, and Banaswadi. The Mallige line will have a network of 25 km and 14 stations will come up at various points along the alignment. Asked whether K-RIDE has issued work orders to the construction company chosen to implement the project, the official said, "For some components work orders have been issued and the rest are in progress."

The official added that K-RIDE was already in possession of a majority of the land to implement the project and private land, to the extent of 12 acres, was being acquired through the Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board. The official maintained that approval had been sought from South Western Railway (SWR) on design, integration, and other aspects.

As the city readies for another option for mass transport, it is the non-integration of several modes of transport systems and the absence of easy access points that have been the bane for commuters. At Majestic, passengers are yet to find seamless access points connecting the metro station, railway station, and bus stands.

Integration with other modes

More than a decade ago, the Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) had proposed to build a multimodal transit centre at Majestic to connect various modes of transport, but the proposal still remains on paper. It has been years since the operation of Namma Metro from Yeshwantpur commenced, but the authorities are still buying time to link it with the railway station.

One more example is the recently commissioned Sir M. Visvesvaraya Terminal, a state-of-the-art airport-like facility for which the Railways spent ₹314 crore. Optimal utilisation of the terminal will be possible only when the authorities come up with a comprehensive road network plan and integrate the station with S.V. Road Metro station located close by. Non-availability of road network was one of the factors that delayed the opening of the terminal for public use.

Railway activists are demanding that K-RIDE and other agencies such as Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Ltd. (BMRCL), the SWR, Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation, and the KSRTC should plan better, connecting various modes of transport.

As per the detailed project report prepared for the suburban rail project, inter-modal integration has been planned at locations such as Kengeri, KSR Bengaluru, Cantonment, Baiyappanahalli, and Chikkabanavara.

The K-RIDE official said, "Many rounds of deliberations have happened on integrating various modes of transport. The Mallige suburban rail network, for example, will be linked with other modes of transport at Yeshwantpur and Hebbal."

Anjum Parwez, BMRCL managing director, told *The Hindu*: "The proposed suburban rail network and other modes such as metro should complement each other. For that to happen, ensuring seamless connectivity is very much essential by providing footbridges and travalotors. We have had multiple deliberations in this regard." The Namma Metro alignment will meet the suburban network at various points in the city, such as Cantonment, Baiyappanahalli, and Hebbal (under Phase III).

Demand grows for taking up work on airport line

'It will help air passengers and also those working at KIA'

SUCHITH KIDIYOOR
BENGALURU

The Airport Halt railway station has remained underutilised.

While sanctioning the suburban rail project, the Union government had imposed a rider that K-RIDE, the implementing agency, must take up the KSR Bengaluru-Devanahalli line, connecting the Kempegowda International Airport (KIA), on priority. However, K-RIDE decided to take up the Baiyappanahalli-Chikkabanavara corridor instead of the airport line in the first phase of the project.

This has not gone down well with railway activists, who have been demanding a robust rail network connecting the airport as it is going to benefit thousands of air passengers and also those working on airport premises.

The detailed project report prepared for the suburban rail project states that the KIA became operational in May 2008 and is 40 km away from the city centre. The NH-44 (Ballari Road) is the only main road connecting the city to the KIA. Presently, air passengers are relying on Vayu Vajra bus services operated by the Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation, taxis or private vehicles to reach the airport.

Metro line

Last year, Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Ltd. (BMRCL) started construction of a 58-km Outer Ring Road-airport link from the Central Silk Board to the KIA. The project is expected to be completed by 2025-26. This metro line will help those travelling from the southern and eastern parts of the city. The BMRCL is also building a new metro line from Kalena Agrahara to Nagawara which will be integrated with the ORR-airport line at Nagawara.

Rajkumar Dugar, convener of Citizens for Citizens (C4C), said, "For reasons unknown, the suburban rail from the heart of the city to the airport was not taken up on a preferential basis. With terminal-2 coming at the KIA and the footfall expected to rise rapidly, we are staring at a crisis without a robust mass transit system connecting the airport. The metro project to the airport is expected to cater to the southern and eastern parts of the city, whereas the suburban rail is to major parts of the city such as Majestic and Yeshwantpur, which have a metro network."

He added that Majestic and Yeshwantpur, which are part of the proposed suburban rail network to the airport, already have Namma Metro stations and railway stations. Integration of these stations with the proposed suburban rail network will help in good patronage.

Rail activist Sanjeev Dyamannavar said, "K-RIDE should call the tender for the airport line and implement the project on priority. This line can be completed early and help in a big way for people commuting to the airport. The agency should also expedite floating of tenders for the remaining corridors. Continued monitoring of the project by both the State government and the Railway Ministry will help in clearing administrative approvals and completing the project."

Last year, South Western Railway started a local train service by using the existing line from Yelahanka to Devanahalli for the benefit of air passengers. But, due to various reasons, the service did not receive good patronage. A halt station built adjacent to the KIA campus remains underutilised.

In early 2020, Bangalore International Airport Ltd. had estimated that the passenger volume at the KIA will be between 55 to 65 million per annum in the next five years.

Rhythm is going to get you

With World Music Day just around the corner, music lovers in Bengaluru will be spoilt for choice this weekend...

:: RUTH DHANARAJ

There is no accounting for a person's taste, especially in music. There are almost as many genres and sub cultures as there are people on the planet. First celebrated in Paris on June 21, 1982, World Music Day has since become a global phenomenon. As it falls on a weekday this year, the musically-inclined all over the city are ensuring the weekend is a tribute to melody and harmony.

NCPA comes to Bengaluru

For the first time since the pandemic, the National Centre for the Performing Arts' Symphony Orchestra of India (SOI), is touring again. Based out of Mumbai, the orchestra will be playing at Ranga Shankara on June 17 and 18.

Talking about the event, Xerxes Unvala, GM, Western Classical and SOI, says they will be playing some of the most popular music by classical composers – Mozart, Beethoven and Bizet.

Apart from a range of classical compositions that are bound to delight the connoisseur of Western classical music, as well as master classes and workshops, the highlight of the orchestra's tour will be a concert that will cater to a younger audience, especially school children. Called the Young People's Concert, Xerxes says, "It is a specially curated programme for children designed as a musical journey with 10 pieces of music each from a different country. Each of these pieces will be performed using different instrumentation as well. It will give children a chance to hear a little bit of music from composers from around the world."

He adds that it will serve as an introductory concert of sorts with a narrator taking them on this journey. "We are trying to engage much more with the community in Bengaluru and bring a little bit of everything that we do in Mumbai, here. We hope to reach out to as many music lovers, musicians and budding artistes as a sort of holistic, residency plan rather than just a concert."

Arundathi Nag, founder of Ranga Shankara, believes it is important for a city like Bengaluru to have a regular, predictable calendar for music.

For the first time in two years, the city will be ringing with the sound of music from every nook and corner

Melody makers Jishnu Dasgupta of Swarathma (extreme left); NCPA's Symphony Orchestra of India will be in the city • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

"The Symphony Orchestra of India of Mumbai is India's only professional, philharmonic orchestra. It is important that the city residents know they will coming here on a regular basis. The Young People's Concert will help parents initiate their children into the world of Western music."

The Symphony Orchestra of India will play at Ranga Shankara on June 17 and 18. Tickets are available at the Ranga Shankara Box Office and bookmyshow.com.

Fete de la Musique is back!

This year, Alliance Française's traditional music festival will be spread over three days to accommodate over 45 artistes who will participating, making this year's celebration of World Music Day a memorable one.

According to Manisha Vinod, co-founder of Bangalore Creative Circus, which is partnering with Alliance Française de Bangalore and The Bangalore School of Music for the show, the event will be held at all three venues over two weekends.

"It is with gusto we are bringing Fete de la Musique back after the pandemic, hence the 'Back to Life' concept as normalcy slowly returns. All the participating bands and artistes will get a chance to perform; it is free music for all to consume. 'Music is for all' has always been the concept of Fete de la Musique," says Manisha.

Some of the participating bands and artistes include Simplemanradio, Fungii, Jazz Revivals, Tanya Shanker, Joe Louis and Rohit Chacko among others.

Titled Back to Life, the show will be held at the Alliance Française de Bangalore, on June 17, 24 and 25, at Bangalore Creative Circus on June 18 and 19, and at The Bangalore School of Music on June 19. While entry is free, one can log on to https://linktr.ee/blrcreativecircus to notify organisers of the venue of their choice.

Elsewhere in the city...

Dreamers and jazz lovers can chill with Penny For Your Love, a four-piece troupe comprising Nupur Saraswat and the members of Reya's Ensemble – Reya, Varsh Sastry and Abhay Nayampally. Their specialty is blending jazz, lyrical ballads and poetry with Reya vocalising, Varsha on the piano and Abhay on the Carnatic guitar, while Nupur performs spoken word and lyrical poetry. On June 18, at Bira 91 Taproom, from 8pm

The Indian Music Experience brings #Weekindies: Learn, Network, Showcase, a day-long programme will include talks on knowledge sharing and skill development, as well as a chance to network with those in the indie music scene including Jishnu Dasgupta, bass player and artist manager for Swarathma and Sandhya Surendra and Varun Murali, founders of Lexic. There will be musical performances by Huyana, Naadaani, Emotions and Mother Tongue, Frizzell D'Souza and Loysum.

On June 19, at Indian Music Experience. To register log on to indianmusicexperience.org

Art in black and white

Bengaluru-based artist Jyoti C Singh Deo talks about her upcoming solo art exhibition Coal'ified

:: RUTH DHANARAJ

Often a way of life is etched so deep in our mind's eye that we fail to notice its absence. For artist Jyoti C Singh Deo who was born and brought up in Jamshedpur, coal mines were always a part of the landscape.

"I would travel an hour to school each day and we would see piles of coal, mountains of black tar and slag; it was an industrial town and a beautiful one. In places like Jharkhand, the landscape is different too – it is all black and the roads are brown. The entire area is dotted with opencast mines (where minerals are sourced from open-air pits) or quarries and it is quite common to see villagers on cycles, ferrying big sacks of coal," says Jyoti.

"Everything about life out there was different, from everyday vocabulary to the way people dressed. Since I grew up there, I thought it was common knowledge, but not many know about life there."

She recounts how difficult it was to source coal in Bengaluru where she is now based.

"I wanted coal pieces for an installation and it was so difficult to find. All I got was charcoal (derived from wood) and eventually I took to searching for coal online. The situation was both difficult and hilarious because what was so common in one place, was scarce elsewhere."

Jyoti who is a self-taught artist adds that she began sketching with charcoal and pencil in childhood.

"It came easily to me and I got the hang of charcoal early on. I eventually discovered various media and have worked with oils, acrylics, ink and watercolours."

Talking about Coal'T'fied,' she says, "It is not an exhibition, it is a story that I want to tell – of what life is like out there in coal-mining towns."

'Coal'T'fied' by Jyoti C Singh Deo will be on display at Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath from June 17 to 20.

Coal goal Jyoti Singh and her art • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Chug on a treat

Platform 65 is a toy train-themed restaurant, which was launched in Bengaluru. Food here will be served by a toy train and the menu offers you dishes from Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Chinese cuisine. The restaurant is designed to look like a railway station where the seats resemble that of a train, and the tables are named after different stations, complete with mini railway tracks. Platform 65 on Bannerghatta main road, can be contacted on 9606488859.

Its fusion music

AHUM presents Saturdays@Swastika, an evening of world fusion music on Navtar by Vishnu R. It is scheduled for June 18 at 6pm. It is a monthly event curated by AHUM, which will be held at their space – Swastika Studio.
Vishnu R is an award-winning performer, composer, inventor and patent-holder of the Navtar, a unique nine-string instrument.
Call 9886334046 or go to bookmyshow for your tickets (₹ 300).

Satire on stage

The theatre group Urban Chaupaal with Theatre For Change presents the play, *Inner Laws*.
Written by Polie Sengupta, the play will be staged on June 19 at Kormangla club, Prabhath Kaladwaraka Auditorium at 4.30pm and 7.30pm. *Inner Laws* is a satirical play, which portrays the toxic relationship between mothers-in-law and daughters-in-law in a mock heroic format. Tickets, priced at ₹250, available at the venue and Allevents

A colourful fair

Satrangi Mela will be held at Indiranagar SOCIAL on June 19, noon onwards.
It is a celebration of the LGBTQIA+ community and will feature queer organisations and artists, activities and workshops through the day. This Queer Culture Festival is curated by SOCIAL in association with India's LGBTQIA+ communities. Besides art and entertainment, the event will also have workshops on topics like Mental Health for Queer folks, Fat Liberation, Erotic Journaling for Queer folks and #art Self Portraits. Entry is free till 5 pm, post which ₹500 (full cover) will be charged. Go to insider.in for tickets.

'Puttannaji changed my persona on screen'

Veteran actor Srinath shares stories of the making of Puttanna Kanagal's *Manasa Sarovara*, which turns 40 this year

Precious moments Actor Srinath with Puttanna and the crew on the sets of *Manasa Sarovara* • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

:: SHILPA ANANDRAJ

Actor Srinath created a niche for himself as a romantic hero of the Kannada cinema , till , *Manasa Sarovara* (1982) happened. In the film, Srinath plays Dr Anand, a psychiatrist. "Puttannaji promised that he would show me in a different avatar on screen."

The legendary director wanted Srinath to express his personality in his walk, dialogue delivery and expression. "I surrendered completely to his genius. He was my teacher and I followed his instructions."

When the shooting was complete, Srinath says Puttanna hugged him saying 'you have done your best, you will reap the fruits of this labour. I cannot promise the results by the audience or the box office'. "Look at the irony, even today people talk about my role as Dr Anand. The credit goes to Puttanaji. Right from the *muhurat* to the last day, he pushed me to my limit."

The *muhurat* shot, is seared into Srinath's memory. "Puttannaji asked me to walk into the house in a way I had never walked before. For a few seconds I was blank, then suddenly I recalled a famous orthopaedic surgeon. He was a good friend of ours and walked like a swan. I mimicked that walk. I had not even taken five steps, when Puttannaji came running from behind and hugged me and said, 'that is exactly who and what I had in mind for your character'."

The climax scene, before the song 'Neene Saakida Gini' called for Srinath to laugh and cry simultaneously. "Puttannaji made me take my spot and asked me to laugh and cry.

He called BS Basavaraj, the cinematographer and asked him to place his camera in a particular spot asking him how much reel he had left. Basavaraj said he had around 180 feet of reel left. Those days each roll was around 400 feet in length."

The director shouted action and Srinath started laughing and crying. "I was terrified of stopping before he said cut. I continued crying and laughing all the while glancing stealthily at Puttannaji, who ignored me. He sat calmly, chewing beetle leaf."

After a while, Srinath says he was tired, his lungs hurt, his vocal chords burned, and he was frustrated. "That was when I screamed, cried and laughed with all that was in me. Puttannaji stopped and looked at me.

And at that moment Basavaraj bent towards Puttannaji to say he had run out of reel. Puttannaji said 'Cut' and ran towards me. He hugged me saying he got what he wanted."

Describing it as Puttanna's style, Srinath says, "He wanted us to bring out real emotions on screen. Today, I am grateful to him for *Masana Sarovara* and *Shubha Mangala*. It was only when I saw the scene while dubbing did I realized what he had got out of me. The scene still gives me goose-bumps. All he asked was, 'Are you happy? I did not want you to act. I waited for you to get the real pain and waited for you to tire yourself out for this shot'."

Srinath credits Puttanna with not only directing him in films, but also in life. "I have learned a lot from him. Even today, his words guide me. He knew how to tap into the artiste buried within each one of us."

FRIDAYREVIEW

NOW SHOWING
LNT CINEMAS
SRINIVASA • BALAJI • LAKSHMI
DOLBY ATMOS AIR CONDITION S.G. PALYA, BENGALURU
DOLBY ATMOS AIR CONDITION TAVAREKERE, BENGALURU
DOLBY ATMOS AIR CONDITION TAVAREKERE, BENGALURU
GODSE
LAKSHMI TAMIL: 1.00 PM, 7.00 PM, 10.00 PM
SRINIVASA TELUGU: 10.00 AM, 4.00 PM, 7.00 PM
SRINIVASA TELUGU: 1.00 PM
SRINIVASA MALAYALAM: 10.00 PM
LAKSHMI TAMIL: 10.00 AM, 4.00 PM
BALAJI KANNADA: 10.00 AM, 1.00 PM, 4.00 PM, 7.00 PM, MALAYALAM: 10.00 PM

Grand Flea Market in Collaboration with Chittara Presents
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THE SOUQ (MARKET)
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Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath
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With majority a certainty, BJP set to move anti-conversion Bill

The ruling party will have 39 members in the 75-member Upper House

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

With the BJP wresting majority in the Legislative Council, the ruling dispensation will move the controversial anti-conversion Bill for clearance from the Upper House in the next legislature session, which is expected to be convened soon.

Currently, an ordinance was promulgated in May this year to implement the Protection of Right to Freedom of Religion Bill, 2021, which was passed by the Legislative Assembly during winter session in December 2021. The ruling BJP had decided against introducing the Bill in the Upper House for want of majority.

While technically the BJP wrested majority after four of its candidates won unanimously in the election held to the Upper House from the Legislative Assembly, the result of the election to the four Council seats from graduates and teachers constituency on Wednesday/Thursday helped the ruling BJP maintain its majority in the House. Seven members elected from the Assembly – four of BJP and two and one from Congress and Janata Dal (Secular), respectively – took oath on Thursday.

The newly elected MLCs who took oath in Bengaluru on Thursday. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

After the results of two graduates constituencies – Karnataka North West and Karnataka South – were declared on Thursday, the BJP will have 39 members in the 75-member Upper House that includes the pro-tem Chairman Raghunathrao Malkapure when the House meets during the next session. The Congress will have 26 members while the JD(S) will have eight. Besides one Independent Lakhan Jarkiholi, one seat vacated by C.M. Ibrahim lies empty. The BJP is expected to win the vacant seat as and when the Election Commission notifies election to fill the seat.

Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister J.C. Madhuswamy told *The Hindu* that the government will move the anti-conversion Bill in the Council during the next session since it had be done within six months of promulgating the ordinance. "Since we now have the majority, we will introduce the Bill in the Council. There is no other Bill that is pending for clearance from the Upper House."

After facing flak from the Opposition Congress and the JD(S), the government decided to not move the anti-conversion Bill in the Upper House in the last minute as enough drama prevailed on the last day of the winter session at Belagavi. The government also did not move the Bill during the joint session and the Budget session earlier this year.

Session likely in July

BJP sources said that the legislature session is expected to be convened in July when the Bill will be moved in the Upper House. "The Chairman will also have to be elected and it is most likely that Basavaraj Horatti, who stepped down from the post of Chairman and resigned from his post to join the BJP, will be the party's choice after he registered a record eighth victory from Karnataka West Teachers constituency," sources said.

Congress bags first victory in South Graduates constituency

BJP had won the seat four times and JD(S) twice

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MYSURU

Congress candidate Madhu Made Gowda, who enjoyed a head start in the poll campaign that started barely months following the death of his father G. Made Gowda, a prominent farmers' leader in the Cauvery heartland, has given the Congress party its first-ever victory in the elections to the Legislative Council from South Graduates constituency.

Hitherto, the Congress had never won from the constituency spread across Mysuru, Mandya, Hassan, and Chamarajanagar ever since it was created in 1992. Out of the six elections held in the constituency so far, including one bypolls, the BJP has won on four occasions while the JD(S) emerged victorious twice, including the elections held in June 2016.

Major setback to JD(S)

Mr. Madhu's victory has not only poured cold water on the hopes of the BJP to clinch the seat after losing it by a narrow margin during the previous polls in June 2016, but also serves as a major setback to the JD(S), which failed to retain the seat in its stronghold.

Congress candidate Madhu Made Gowda was declared elected to the Council on Thursday. • M.A. SRIRAM

The open rebellion by JD (S) MLC Marithibbe Gowda against the party's official candidate H.K. Ramu also appears to have helped the Congress cause. No less a person than Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC) working president R. Dhruvanarayan acknowledged Mr. Marithibbe's campaign in favour of the party candidate and also said, in response to a question from reporters, that the doors of the party were open to him.

Caste factor

The BJP may have put up united front in its determined bid to wrest the seat and send a message that the party was making inroads in the Vokkaliga-dominated Old Mysore region, but party sources do not rule out the possibility of caste factor spoiling its chances. Unlike Mr. Madhu and Mr. Ramu, BJP's M.V. Ravishankar does not belong to the Vokkaliga community.

Congress spokesperson H.A. Venkatesh said the party chose Mr. Madhu as its candidate more than six months before the elections, giving him enough time to reach out to the voters. While the BJP candidate Mr. Ravishankar faced a challenge to his nomination by former MLC G. Madhusudan, JD(S) candidate Mr. Ramu's nomination was questioned by long-time partyman and aspirant Keelara Jayaram, a close confidante of Mr. Marithibbe.

Mr. Madhu also enjoyed the sympathy among the voters towards his late father Made Gowda, who not only served as an MLA and MP in the region, but was also in the forefront of Cauvery agitation.

The victory of the Congress party in the Old Mysore region will also come as a shot in the arm for former Chief Minister Siddaramaiah.

Educated voters have rejected BJP: Siddaramaiah

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Leader of the Opposition Siddaramaiah on Thursday termed the Congress' victory in South Graduates and North West Teachers constituencies as "rejection" of the ruling BJP by educated voters for its "communal and revenge politics."

The victory of the party in two constituencies was an indication of a wave in favour of the party ahead of next year's Legislative Assembly polls, Mr. Siddaramaiah told presspersons.

The BJP had confidence of winning all four seats. Despite campaigning by Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai in all four constituencies, the BJP failed to win in two segments. The voters rejected the "communal and revenge politics" of the BJP, he said.

Former Council Chairman Basavaraj Horatti won the elections owing to his personal charisma and not because of the BJP. Earlier, Mr. Horatti had won on the JD(S) ticket. Disgruntled with the faulty economic policies, unemployment, and inflation, the educated electorate had voted in favour of the Congress, Mr. Siddaramaiah argued.

Don't send names of TT team for now, HC tells TTFI

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka on Thursday directed the Table Tennis Federation of India (TTFI) not to send the list of national women table tennis team to represent the country in the Commonwealth Games-2022, to be held at Birmingham in the United Kingdom from July 28 to August 8, till the next date of hearing on a petition filed by a woman TT player.

A Division Bench comprising Justice P.S. Dinesh Kumar and Justice C.M. Poonacha issued the interim directions on a petition filed by 21-year-old tennis player Archana Girish Kamath, who has already represented India in many international tournaments.

Ms. Kamath questioned her exclusion from the list of players selected by the TTFI even though her name was in the list, which was submitted before the Sports Authority of India during May last week after being chosen by the selection committee.

It was pointed out in the petition that the selection committee on May 31 had also announced a five-member women TT team, including the petitioner, for the CWG-22 and this news was widely published in the media. Also the TTFI had sent various communications to her for making preparations, including for travel to U.K., it was claimed in the petition.

However, to the shock of the petitioner, her name was not found in the minutes of meeting published by the TTFI on its website on June 6 and the name of another player was found in her place, it was alleged in the petition.

It was contended that she was left out citing the selection criteria, which was followed even after terming it as 'flawed' one by the TTFI itself. Also, the TTFI has failed to act upon the recommendation of the selection committee comprising of experts, it was claimed in the petition.

'Drop proceedings against Congress leaders'

Party takes out protest march; 50 workers, including leaders DKS and Siddaramaiah, detained

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The State Congress on Thursday took out a protest march from its office on Queen's Road to Raj Bhavan against the Central government's "vendetta politics, misuse of power and abuse of investigating agencies" and the ED's questioning of MP Rahul Gandhi in New Delhi in the National Herald case.

"The government can put us in jail and file cases. We won't be intimidated," KPCC president D.K. Shivakumar said. "The use of ED and police is an attempt to crush the morale of our party workers. The people will teach a lesson to the BJP." Leader of the Opposition Siddaramaiah slammed the BJP for targeting the Congress leaders. "Keeping someone at a police station for 8-10 hours amounts to illegal confinement," he said.

Congress leaders being detained during a protest in Bengaluru on Thursday • SUDHAKARA JAIN

In a memorandum to Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot over the matter, the Congress urged him to intervene in the issue and direct the central government, ED authorities, and the Delhi police to drop all illegal proceedings against the leaders of the party. It also said "not to prevent the Congress leaders and workers from the peaceful protests."

Traffic disrupted

As the leaders marched to Raj Bhavan, traffic in and around the area was disrupted for some time and traffic policemen were found struggling to manage.

The police made elaborate security arrangements to monitor law and order and traffic movement in and around the CBD area was diverted.

As the protest march commenced from KPCC office via Queen's Road to enter Raj Bhavan, the police stopped the protesters and detained them. Mr. Siddaramaiah and Mr. Shivakumar were among 50 party workers detained. The protesters alleged that the plainclothes policemen assaulted them before bundling them into the vans which they had stationed at Balekundri Circle.

A senior police officer said that any form of protest or procession is illegal within the city limits as per the High Court order and the Congress had been informed about this.

Colleges yet to renew affiliation

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MANGALURU

As many as 27 colleges affiliated to Mangalore University have not applied for renewal/extension of affiliation for the new batch of students for the academic year 2022-23. According to Director (in-charge), College Development Council of the university, V. Ravindrachary, some colleges might be seeking affiliation of private universities.

Makeshift stalls of tribals removed before Governor's convoy passes by

Over 100 stalls cleared on either side of national highway

SATHISH G.T.
HASSAN

Ahead of Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot's visit to Hassan, the Belur Police, on Thursday, removed roadside makeshift stalls put up by the tribal people of Angadihalli. The police allegedly tore the banners, damaged the furniture, and threw away bottles of various oils that people of the Hakki Pikki tribal community had put up for sale.

The Governor reached Hassan on Thursday evening after participating in the convocation of Kuvempu University in Shivamogga via Halebidu and Hagare in Belur taluk. Hours before the Governor's convoy could pass on the NH-373, the police cleared over hundred stalls put up by the tribal people on either side of the highway.

K.M. Yogesh, Circle Inspector of Belur, told *The Hindu*, "The tribal people had put up the stalls on the footpath. They had no permission for the stalls. As the Governor's convoy was scheduled to pass on the highway connecting Belur and Hassan, we removed them".

The Hakki Pikki community, who moved out of the forest in the recent decades, prepare various kinds of oils, extracted from plants claimed to have medicinal value. Before the COVID-19 pandemic, they travelled to different places to sell their products. Many of them visited foreign countries too. However, in recent months, they put up stalls near their village so that tourists on the route could purchase them.

The Belur police removed stalls of Hakki Pikki people near Angadihalli on Thursday. • FILE PHOTO

Chandosi, a woman who had a stall, said the tribals had lost all sources of income during COVID-19. "We don't know why the police removed our stalls. They tore our banners and took away of bottles, insisting we should not sell them," she said.

Guests of Republic Day

Chandosi and her husband Hooraja were invited by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs (Government of India) as guests to witness the Republic Day Programme in 2020 in Delhi. They visited the capital and participated in an interaction with the President, the Prime Minister, and others.

"We were invited by the Government of India as representatives of the tribal community. But, the administration is not allowing us lead a decent life," said Mr. Hooraja.

Pension Adalat to be held on July 28

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

The Office of the Controller of Communication Accounts, Karnataka Circle, Department of Telecommunications, will hold the 28th Pension Adalat through virtual mode on July 28. Office of the CCA Karnataka Circle, pensioners/family pensioners, who have retired from the Department of Telecom/BSNL, Karnataka Circle, may submit their representation by June 28.

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

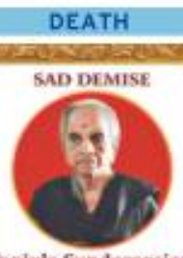
A.K.SESHADRI (84), Retired Assistant General Manager (Accounts), The Hindu, Chennai passed away on 16-06-2022. Address: "Sri Gayatri", Plot No:44, L H Nagar, II Layout, 3rd Main Road, Adambakkam, Chennai-600088. Ct: 9841729315

SAD DEMISE

DR. MB VEDAVALLI
Retd Professor. & HOD (Indian Music), Madras University & Eminent Musicologist attained Acharyan Thiruvadi on 16.06.2022.
Contact: 044 24715322

DEATH

SAD DEMISE



Vanjula Sundararajan
(11/5/1930 - 11/6/2022)
Passed away in Bangalore
Deeply mourned by
Mukundan
Balaji

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

FIRST ANNIVERSARY

Shri.A.P.MOHANDAS
Retd. from HVF, Avadi
08.10.1944 - 17.06.2021
Fondly remembered by –
Ranjinidas, Madhula & Sundar, Ranjith & Neema, Vidhula,
Grand Children: Lakshita & Kanishk
7845672946 / 9444961042

DEATH

OBITUARY
"Nainam chindanti shastrani nainam dahati pavakaha
cainam kledayantyapo na sosayati marutah"

Smt S.S.Thulasi Lakshmi
(Retd IIT Madras)
(29.10.1942 ~ 16.06.2022)
W/o Shri K. A. Lakshmanan
Attained Shivaloka Prapthi on 16th June 2022 at 1:00 am
Deeply mourned by: family and friends
Contacts: +91 9841289744, +91 9600032496, +91 9841289766

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, SWD, Yelahanka Zone BBMP, 9th Floor, Jayanagara Shopping Complex, 4th Block, Jayanagar, Bengaluru-11
No.EE/SWD-YIk/TEND/02/2022-23 Date: 16.06.2022
SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through GOK e-Procurement Portal only) (Two Cover System)

The Executive Engineer, SWD - Yelahanka Zone, invites tenders from eligible Tenderers for the work detailed in the table below:

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Approx. Length in KMS.	EMD Amount (in Rs.)
1	Annual Maintenance of Strom water Drains in Yelahanka Constituency of Yelahanka Zone.	21.90 Kms	Rs. 4,58,0000/-
2	Annual Maintenance of Strom water Drains in Byatarayanapura Constituency of Yelahanka Zone.	33.82 Kms	Rs. 8,81,0000/-

1) Tender documents may be downloaded from e-procurement portal. 2) Pre-bid meeting : **20.06.2022 at 16:00 Hrs. 3)** Last date for submission of tender documents : **23.06.2022 upto 16:00 Hrs. 4)** Date of opening of Technical Proposal: **24.06.2022 at 16.30 Hrs.** Further details can be accessed from GoK e-procurement website: **https://eproc. karnataka.gov.in** or contact e-procurement helpdesk at : 080-22371090/ 22340060/ 22340948 or office of the undersigned.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, SWD - Yelahanka Zone.

STAY PROTECTED FROM COVID-19. NO CARELESSNESS UNTIL THERE IS A CURE
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, SWD - West Zone, 9th Floor, Jayanagara Shopping Complex, 4th Block, Jayanagara, Bengaluru - 560011.
No: EE/SWD-WEST/TEND/02/2022-23 Date: 16-06-2022
SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through GOK e-Procurement Portal only)

The Executive Engineer (SWD - West Zone), BBMP, Bengaluru invites tenders from eligible Contractors registered in BBMP or equivalent registration with CPWD / KPWD / Railways / MES / National Highway or any State Government Organizations for the construction of works detailed below.
(Standard Tender Document - KW-4)

Sl. No.	Package	Approximate Length (in Kms)	EMD (in Rs.)
1	Annual Maintenance of Storm Water Drains in Rajajinagara Constituency of West Zone (For the period of 3 years)	7.86	482000.00
2	Annual Maintenance of Storm Water Drains in Chamarajapet Constituency of West Zone (For the period of 3 years)	3.97	131000.00
3	Annual Maintenance of Storm Water Drains in Govindarajanagara Constituency of West Zone (For the period of 3 years)	12.56	272000.00
4	Annual Maintenance of Storm Water Drains in Mahalakshmi Layout Constituency of West Zone (For the period of 3 years)	11.60	415000.00
5	Annual Maintenance of Storm Water Drains in Gandhinagara Constituency of West Zone (For the period of 3 years)	8.05	390000.00
6	Annual Maintenance of Storm Water Drains in Malleshwaram Constituency of West Zone (For the period of 3 years)	4.925	205000.00

Calendar of Events: 1) Tender Documents can be downloaded from the GOK e-Procurement Portal Website: **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in 2)** Date of Pre-Bid Meeting on **22-06-2022 at 16.00 Hrs. 3)** Last Date for Submission of Bid Documents **on 28-06-2022 upto 16.00 Hrs. 4)** Opening of Technical Bid **on 29-06-2022, 16.30 Hrs.** Further details can be had from the above office.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, SWD, West Zone, BBMP.

PAY DEVELOPMENT CHARGES, HELP TO DEVELOP BENGALURU
COVID-19. DO NOT PANIC, BE AWARE
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

March to Raj Bhavan turns violent in Kerala

Two police personnel sustain injuries

STAFF REPORTER
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

A demonstration taken out by the Kerala Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC) to Raj Bhavan here on Thursday in protest against the Centre's purported political witch-hunt against Congress leaders Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi, MP turned violent after some activists attempted to scale barricades and storm the premises.

Two police personnel, including a woman, sustained injuries after protesters hurled stones at them. Three Congress activists were arrested in this connection.

All hell broke loose shortly after senior KPCC leaders addressed party workers and left the makeshift stage erected on a lorry near Raj Bhavan. As several activists tried to topple the barricades, the police used water cannons on them twice. However, the agitators regrouped and hurled stones and sticks at the police. This prompted the police to fire eight grenades and four tear gas shells to force a retreat. Congress workers Leena, Supriya and Sudha were detained and shifted to the Armed Reserve camp after recording arrest.

Earlier, KPCC president K. Sudhakaran, who inaugurated the protest, lashed out at the Enforcement Directorate (ED) for its questioning of Mr. Gandhi in the *National Herald* case and the Delhi police for allegedly barging into the All India Congress Committee headquarters in New Delhi and assaulting party workers. He alleged that the action was yet another attempt by the Centre to cow down its political rivals.

Leader of the Opposition V.D. Satheesan also alleged that the Central agencies had been functioning in accordance with the political stance of the BJP's national leadership. "While it has preferred to go slow with probes against the Left Democratic Front in the SNC-Lavalin and UAE diplomatic channel gold smuggling cases, the Congress has always been at the receiving end of unfair action. The double standards shown by agencies, including the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and the ED, proved the nexus between the BJP and the CPI(M)," he claimed.

Playing with fire: Police using stun granades to disperse Congress and Youth Congress activists who staged a protest near the Raj Bhavan in Thiruvananthapuram on Thursday. • S. MAHINSHA

Fierce fight in Telangana

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD

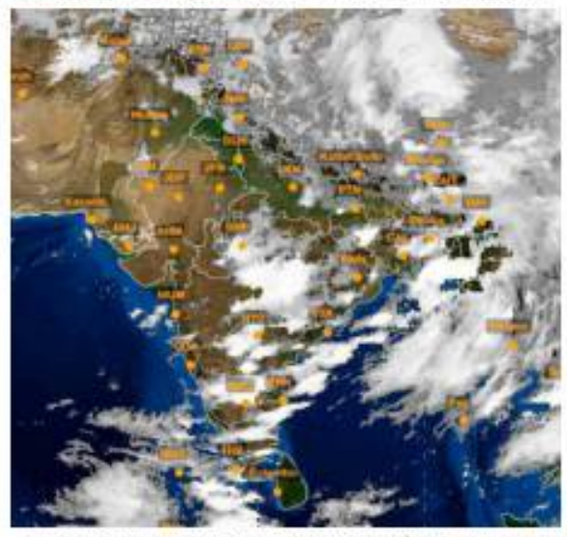
The 'Chalo Raj Bhavan' call by the Congress on Thursday turned violent as the police resorted to lathi-charge to prevent the Congress workers from going towards Raj Bhavan. The angry cadre set a two-wheeler on fire and climbed atop the RTC buses raising slogans against the Modi government.

The police arrested all the senior leaders including TPCC president, A. Revanth Reddy; CLP leader Bhatti Vikramarka; MLAs T. Jayaprakash Reddy, Sreedhar Babu and senior leaders J. Geetha Reddy, and Renuka Chowdary among others.

The Chalo Raj Bhavan was called to protest against the 'harassment' of Rahul Gandhi in the name of questioning by the Enforcement Directorate.

WEATHER WATCH

RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE & AIR QUALITY IN SELECT METROS YESTERDAY



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 16.00 HRS)

Forecast for Friday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Tripura, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Telangana, coastal Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Kerala. Thunderstorm with lightning/gusty winds likely at isolated places over Punjab, Chandigarh, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka and Lakshadweep

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	17	32.0	24.2	Kozhikode	2	33.4	25.0
Ahmedabad	–	39.5	28.4	Kurnool	0.5	35.4	26.2
Allahabad	–	36.7	26.8	Lucknow	–	37.8	29.6
Bengaluru	–	30.6	21.3	Madurai	22	35.7	23.5
Bhopal	–	39.3	28.0	Mangaluru	21.2	30.2	23.8
Bhubaneswar	–	37.3	25.6	Mumbai	12	33.1	26.5
Chandigarh	25.2	38.2	23.6	Mysuru	–	31.0	21.2
Chennai	–	36.3	27.5	New Delhi	2	40.2	23.8
Coimbatore	–	34.3	23.4	Patna	–	38.5	29.0
Dehradun	11	35.4	23.2	Port Blair	0.3	31.0	25.3
Gangtok	7.3	19.2	17.0	Puducherry	24.2	34.0	22.4
Goa	27	31.1	24.7	Pune	–	35.6	24.2
Guwahati	49	25.6	23.5	Raipur	–	40.5	26.0
Hubballi	–	31.0	23.0	Ranchi	11	33.4	23.6
Hyderabad	0.4	35.2	24.2	Shillong	46	19.0	17.5
Imphal	7	28.4	21.1	Shimla	22	25.6	13.3
Jaipur	0.1	38.8	30.3	Srinagar	–	31.2	18.6
Kochi	12	30.4	23.6	Thiruvananthapuram	24	31.8	23.6
Kohima	24	24.0	15.1	Tiruchi	0.2	37.1	25.0
Kolkata	–	34.9	28.9	Vijayawada	–	37.8	28.7
				Visakhapatnam	0.6	33.5	27.0

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing — **Yesterday**

CITIES	SO2	NO2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	51	53	58	45	97	
Bengaluru	12	21	19	81	81	
Chennai	26	21	71	26	42	
Delhi	13	21	30	185	140	
Hyderabad	13	28	52	38	71	
Kolkata	14	14	19	62	95	
Lucknow	12	26	79	121	162	
Mumbai	55	24	40	27	33	
Pune	122	15	113	76	61	
Visakhapatnam	17	35	17	–	57	

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Purnia, Bihar recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 226 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Aizawl, Mizoram recorded a healthy AQI score of 19

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

The Hindu Education Plus Career Counselling in Karnataka from June 25

It will be held at 10 locations in nine cities

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

The 20th edition of The Hindu Education Plus Career Counselling 2022 Karnataka will be held at 10 locations in nine cities in June and July. The event will cover educational topics like CET, COMEDK, NEET, general education (offbeat courses), Law, Pure Science, Arts, Science & Commerce, Management, PGDM, Engineering & Medicine.

The event sets a benchmark in educational and professional guidance. It acts as a platform to connect students and parents with speakers and educational institutions. The event also helps students to take the right decisions after getting the necessary counselling and guidance.

Schedule

Place	Date
Bengaluru North	June 25
Mangaluru	June 25
Kalaburagi	June 25
Tumakuru	June 26
Bidar	June 26
Bengaluru South	July 2
Hubballi	July 2
Ballari	July 3
Mysuru	July 3
Davangere	July 3

Event sponsors

Platinum Sponsor for the event is Presidency University, Bangalore

Silver Sponsors for the event are: ACS College of Engineering, Bangalore; K. S. Group of Institutions, Bangalore; Rajarajeswari College of Engineering, Bangalore; Siddaganga Institute of Technology, Tumkur; Soundarya Institute of Management and Science, Bangalore; and Universal Group of Institutions, Bangalore.

Other associate Sponsors are: CMR University, Bangalore, Karnataka State Open Univeristy, Mysuru; and Shaheen Group of Institutions, Bidar.

Timings and details

The timings for registration is between 8.30 a.m. and 9.30 a.m.

The event will be held between 9.30 a.m. and 1 p.m.

For more details about thr event, contact following mobile numbers: 9739273958 / 9448160126 / 944887181

Question in ayurveda exam paper triggers row

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

A question in the ayurveda paper set by the Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Science (RGUHS), in which women are allegedly referred to in a derogatory manner, has created a controversy.

A question in the paper for the fourth-year Bachelor of Ayurvedic Medicine and Surgery (BAMS) degree exam, held on Thursday, asked students to write a short essay on "Stree as a Vajikarana dravya" (literally meaning "woman as a aphrodisiac item").

Reference slammed

This created a controversy, with many on social media platforms slamming the use of such a "regressive" reference to women and their "objectification".

'From the textbook'

However, university officials said this was part of textbook and should be seen in a context.

Ramakrishna Reddy, Registrar (Evaluation) of RGUHS, told *The Hindu*, "The question paper is set as per the syllabus. These are things taught in the textbook and are one of the methods of treatment. The university has no authority over adding or removing the contents of the textbook as it was set by the Central Council for Indian Medicine."

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
Office Of The Executive Engineer, Public Works Department Division, Chitradurga
No. EE:PWD:CTA:AE-2:Tender-15:2022-23/921 Dt: 16.06.2022

SHORT TERM E-TENDER EXTENSION NOTIFICATION

It is notified to the Registered Contractors in KPWD that the tender for the following works vide Notification No. EE:PWD:CTA:AE-2,Tender-15:2022-23, Dated: 03.06.2022 is extended mentioned below.

works Tender dates are as mentioned below:- Last Date & time for Tender Queries/ Clarifications 30.06.2022 Time: 17.30 Last Date & time for receipt of tenders 01.07.2022 Time: 16.00 Date & time for opening of Technical Bid 02.07.2022 Time: 16.01 Date & time for opening of Financial Bid 04.07.2022 Time: 11.00 Further details can be obtained from this office and H.P. Company helpline Numbers 080-25501216 and 080-25501227.

DIPR/CTA/MCA/247/2022-23

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Public Works Department Division, Chitradurga.

RURAL DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION DEPARTMENT
Office of the Chief Engineer, RDW&S Dept., 1st Floor, E-Block, KHB Complex, Cauvery Bhavan, Bengaluru - 560 009.
Tel: 080-22533700 Email: cerws14@gmail.com

No. RDW&SD/376/2021-22 Date: 15-06-2022

Empanelment of State Quality Monitors (SQM)

Rural Drinking Water and Sanitation Department, Govt. of Karnataka invites applications for **Empanelment of State Quality Monitors (SQM) for monitoring of Jal Jeevan Mission works.**

The candidate should have retired from the post not below the level of Executive Engineer or equivalent from Central / State Govt. / PSU or Retired / serving faculty members of reputed engineering college / research institution who have worked in Drinking water supply schemes are hereby requested to submit their application as per the prescribed format along with necessary documents to The Commissioner, 2nd Floor, KHB Complex, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560009 **on or before 02.07.2022 latest by 5.00 pm.**

For detailed notification on terms and conditions and application format please **visit www.rdpr.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Tender Inviting Authority
Rurual Drinking Water & Sanitation Dept.

DIPR/CPiBCPL/940/2022-23

COVID-19. DO NOT PANIC, BE AWARE
Wear Mask | Follow Physical Distancing (6 Feet) | Maintain Hand Hygiene

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given to the public that we are investigating the right, title, interest, benefits, entitlements of whatsoever nature of the respective owners on behalf of our client who intends to purchase the property/ies as mentioned in the table below, situated in the village of Chikkanagamangala, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District, which is more particularly described in the Schedule hereunder written and hereinafter called "Schedule Property".

ALL persons including an individual anybody under law, having any objection, claim, right, title and/or interest in respect of said Property or any part or portion thereof are hereby requested to inform the same in writing, supported with the original documents, to the undersigned having their office at 6/12, Giriappa Avenue, Primrose Road Bengaluru 560 025 within a period of 21 (Twenty One) days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which, the claim or claims, if any, of such person or persons shall be considered to have been waived and/or abandoned.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the commercially converted lands situated at Chikkanagamangala, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District:

Sy No.	Extent	Boundaries
98	2 Acres 21 Guntas (including 02 Guntas Kharab)	East by: Remaining portion of same Sy No. 98; West by: Private Property; North by: Rajakaluve; and South by: Private Property.
98	2 Acres 21 Guntas (including 02 Guntas Kharab)	East by : Private Company Property; West by: Remaining portion of same Sy No. 98; North by : Rajakaluve; and South by : Government land and Road.

Mr. S T Prashantha Kumar, Partner,
Fox Mandal & Associates,
Solicitors & Advocates,
FM House, 6/12, Primrose Road,
Bangalore – 560025, Karnataka, India
Phone: +91 80 25595911

Bangalore
Dated: 16/06/2022

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER RURAL DRINKING WATER & SANITATION DEPARTMENT, YADGIR DIVISION, YADGIR

No. EE/RDW&S/DIVN/YDG/PMC/2022-23/337 Date : 14-06-2022

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through e-procurement)

Tender notification No. EE/RDWS&SD/YADGIR/DIVISION/PMC/2022-23

On behalf of the Governor of Karnataka, The Executive Engineer, Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Department,Yadgir Division, Yadgir invites short term tenders for Providing Project Management Consultancy Services for the following work.

1) Description of work :Providing Project Management Consultancy Services for Multi Village Drinking Water Supply Scheme to all the Rural Habitation and 3 Urban Areas of Kakkera, Kembhavi and Hunasagi in Yadgiri District, to be implemented through Design-Build-Operate-Transfer (DBOT) mode Under Jal Jeevan Mission, 2) Consultancy Services Estimated Cost (Rs. in lakhs) : Rs.983.00 lakhs Excluding GST, 3) Earnest Money Deposit (Rs.) : 9,80,000/-, 4) Period of Completion (in months) : 32 Months

Calendar of Events:

1) Downloading of RFP from E-Portal starts from : Date: **20-06-2022 after 11.00 am,** 2) Pre Proposal meeting to be held on : **Date: 21-06-2022 after 11.00 am** indicated in e-procurement portal, at the office of the Chief Engineer, RDW&S Department, 1st Floor, KHB Complex, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G.Road, Bangalore-09 and/or through appropriate online mode, 3) Last Date for receipt of Technical and Financial Proposals : **Date: 20-07-2022 before 16.30 pm,** 4) Date of Opening of Technical : Date: **21-07-2022 after 17.30 pm,** 5) Date of Opening of Financial : Date: **27-07-2022 after 11.00 am**

The RFP can be downloaded from the e-Procurement (www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in). Proposals shall be submitted electronically at www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in and EMD and Tender Processing Fee shall also be paid electronically. Interested firms shall register on the e-procurement platform to participate in this tender.

Tender shall be accompanied by EMD as per the details provided in e-procurement portal.Further information, if any, may be obtained from the office of the undersigned during the office hours or through e-procurement.

DIP/Yadgiri/102/MC&A/2022-23

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
RDW&S Division Yadgir

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby notified that my client negotiating to purchase all that property described in the Schedule herein, with **Smt. M. Lakshmidevamma W/o. Venkataswamy** (Owner),who claim to be the owner of the **Schedule Property**.Any person or persons ascertaining any right, title, interest or claim in the Schedule Property or any part thereof and in any manner whatsoever against the Schedule Property based on the documents pertaining to the Schedule Property or objecting for the proposed development may lodge their objections and/or claims with the undersigned along with supporting documentary evidence within **7 (Seven) days**from the date of this publication and objections and/or claims received thereafter will not be binding on my clients and my clients will proceed to develop the below mentioned property as if there are no objections/claims of whatsoever nature with regard to the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the agricultural land bearing Sy.No.50/4 (old Sy.No.50/3B) measuring 0Acre19.08 Guntas, situated at Koluru Village, Kasaba Hobli, Doddaballapura Taluk, Bangalore Rural District and bounded on the:East by: Land bearing Sy.No.21; West by: Land belongs to Narayanachari; North by: Land belongs to Lakshmamma; South by:Land belong to K.R. Sampangi Ramaiah.

ROOPA SHETTY, Advocate
Lex Situs,No.810, 'BILWAPRIYA PLATINA', 2nd Floor, 27th Main Road, HSR Layout, Sector 1, Bangalore - 560102.
Phone: 080-22583563, 080-25723339; Email:info@lexsitus.com

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯತ ಕೊಪ್ಪಳ
ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕುಟುಂಬ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಸೇವೆಗಳ ಇಲಾಖೆ
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕುಟುಂಬ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ
ಕೊಪ್ಪಳ- 583231. ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : 08539-221660
E – Mail : dhokoppal@gmail.com

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:ಜಿಆಕಾಕಾ/ಆಯ್ಕಾ/57/2019-20 ದಿನಾಂಕ :13-06-2022

Short Term tender Notification

Subject: Regarding procurement of Mobile Tuberculosis Van for District TB Office Koppal.

The Transparency Act 1999-2000 in Karnataka Public Collections and the Government of India and the Labor Department conditions are inviting a short-term e-tender for the purchase of **Mobile Tuberculosis Van** to the District Tuberculosis Van in Koppal District by registered eligible organizations. More details can be obtained at **www.e-proc.karnataka.gov.in.**

Vehicle Provision: District T B Office Koppal. **Tender Amount:** Rs. 76,00,000/-. **EMD Amount**: Rs.1,90,000/-. **Application Starting date:** 13/06/2022. **Application receiving last date:** 21/06/2022. **E-Tender Technical Bid opening date**: 23/06/2022

Tender Opening Place: District Health and Family Welfare Office, Hospet road, Koppal Phone No: 08539-221660.

Sd/- District Health & Family Welfare Officer, Koppal.
DIPR/Koppal/151/MCA/2022-23

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of General Public that our Client **Mr. Basavaraj Shekharappa Sandihal,** Aged about 43 years, S/o. Shekharappa Ningappa Sandihal, is intending to purchase the vacant site bearing No.526, which is more fully described in the schedule hereunder, from its owner **Mrs. Kavitha Bhat, aged about 44 years, W/o. Subramanya Bhat**, Residing at No. A-19, 9th Floor, Platinum City HMT Main Road, Near Peenya Metro Station, Yeshwanthpura, Bangalore North, Bangalore-560022. Any person/s has/having any right, claim or interest or objections, whatsoever in respect of the proposed sale over the below mentioned Schedule Property may lodge their objections/claims in writing to the undersigned or may approach with documentary proof within **15 (Fifteen) days** from the date of this publication. In the event of no claim/objections being received within the stipulated period, our client will proceed with further transactions to purchase the Schedule Property, and thereafter no claim/s will be entertained.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of Property vacant site bearing No.526 situated at Nallakadirenahalli Village, Yeshwanthapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, LAYOUT FORMED BY SHREE GRUHALAKSHMI CO-OPERATIVE HOUSING SOCIETY LTD., in Several Sy.Nos.1/1B, 2B, 2/1, 2, 3, 3/2B, 94/4, 95/1, 2, 96/1, 3, 4, 97/1, 2, 3, 98/1, 2, 3, 112/1, 113/1, 2, 4, 114/1, 115/1, 2, 116, 117/1, 2, 118/2B, 3, 119/1, 2, 120/2, 3, 121/1, 2, 3, 4 122/2, 3, 5 of Nallakadirenahalli Village, Yeshwanthapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, earlier Dasarahalli CMC Kathta No.422, Bangalore, now comes within the limits of BBMP, assigned with BBMP Kathta No.1/1B-122/2, 3, 5, old Khatha No.422, New Ward No.41-Peenya Industrial Area, Bangalore, measuring East to West 30 feet or 9.14 Meters and North to South 40 feet or 12.19 meters, in all measuring 1200 Sq.ft or 111.41 sq.meters, and bounded on

East by : Site No.525, West by : Site No.527, North by : Road, South by : Site No.537,

N. SHIVAKUMAR
SHIVA & SHIVA, Advocates
11, (old No. 61), 'Shiva Krupa', 2nd Floor, Above State Bank of India, 19th Main, 2nd Block, Rajajinagar, Bangalore - 560 010.
Ph: 080-2332 3131

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
ವಿಜಯನಗರ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ, ಬಳ್ಳಾರಿ
VIJAYANAGAR INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES, BELLARY
Reg.No:205/1995-96-Recognized by Medical Council of India, New Delhi vide No:MCI-57(3)/79-Med/1912, Dtd.16-04-1979 Director: 8147796529, Principal:8147796527,CAO:8147796526 PA : 8147796539,
e-mail-ids:directorvimsbellary@gmail.com, [Web:https://vims.karnataka.gov.in

No.VIMS/Est(2)/209/2022-23 Date: 14.06.2022.

WALK-IN–INTERVIEW NOTIFICATION

Applications are invited from the eligible candidates from Kalyana Karnataka (HK) local persons under 371J and Non Kalyana Karnataka (NHK) local persons for the below mentioned Teaching posts at Super specialty Hospital and Super specialty Trauma Care Hospital, VIMS, Ballari**ON REGULAR BASIS**. The candidates are required to attend the Interview at below mentioned venue with all the relevant original documentsalongwith 02 sets of xerox copies. **Venue :** Office of the Director, Vijayanagara Institute of Medical Sciences, Cantonment, Ballari – 583104. **Date of verification of documents** : 29.06.2022 from 10.30 am to 3.00 pm by Scrutiny Committee. **Date of Walk In-interview :** 30.06.2022 on 10.30 am.

SUPER SPECIALTY HOSPITAL, VIMS, BALLARI.

Sl No	Designation	No of Posts	Department	Local Cadre (K.K)	RPC (N.K.K)
01	Professor	01	Anaesthesiology	SC-1	-
02	Associate Professor	02		SC-1, GM-1	-
03	Assistant Professor	04		SC-1, GM-1, ST-1	SC-1

SUPER SPECIALTY TRAUMA CARE HOSPITAL, VIMS, BALLARI.

SlNo	Designation	No of Posts	Department	Local Cadre (K.K)
01	Professor	01	Emergency Medicine	SC-1
02	Associate Professor	01		SC-1
03	Assistant Professor	01		SC-1

The candidates are informed to submit the Demand Draft for Rs.500/- (Non-refundable) drawn in favour of Director Vijayanagar Institute of Medical Sciences Ballari, payable at Ballari.

Application Form and other details for reference may be downloaded from college website: https://vims.karnataka.gov.in

DIPR/Ballari/149/MCA/2022-23

Sd/- Director, VIMS, Ballari.

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, BBMP, Bommanahalli Division, Begur Main Road, Bommanahalli, Bangalore - 560 068.

NO.BBMP/EE/BD/TEND-02/2022-23 Date:16.06.2022

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER (IFT)
(Through GOK e-Procurement Portal only) (Single/Two Cover Tender)

The Executive Engineer, Bommanahalli Division invites tenders from eligible contractors registered in KPWD / CPWD / BWSSB / MES / Railways / National Highways or any State Government Organisations for the following works.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Approx. value of work (Rs. in lakhs)	EMD (In Rs.)
1.	Construction of Library Building in BBMP Land for Senior Citizens at Shanthi Nikethan Layout, in Ward No. 193, Arakere.	2.50	6,250/-
2.	Construction of Toilet in BBMP Land for Senior Citizens and other works at Shanthi Nikethan Layout, in Ward No. 193, Arakere.	2.50	6,250/-
3.	Providing Name Boards and CC Camera in Ward No. 174, HSR Layout, Providing & Fixing CC Camera in Ward No. 189, Hongasandra, Providing, Supplying and fixing the CC Camera & all accessaries in Ward No. 193, Arakere. **(Package -1 - BZ - BD(W-174,189,193)**	299.00	Rs. 4,48,500/- (Rs. 1.00 lakh by e-payment and remaining amount to be provided in the form of BG/DD/FDR).

All Works are Reserved for General Category.

(1) Tender documents may be downloaded from GoK e-procurement portal from **18.06.2022 onwards. (2)** Last date for submission of tenders (for Sl. No. 1 & 2): **27.06.2022 upto 4.00 p.m. &** (for Sl. No. 3): **02.07.2022 upto 4.00 p.m. (3)** Opening of Technical Bids: **04.07.2022 after 11.00 a.m.** Further details can be accessed from GoK e-procurement website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** or contact the office of the undersigned.

Sd/- Executive Engineer (Bommanahalli Division).

STAY PROTECTED FROM COVID-19. NO CARELESSNESS UNTIL THERE IS A CURE.
Wear Mask | Follow Physical Distancing (6 Feet) | Maintain Hand Hygiene

Waiting for jobs

The Centre's decision to recruit personnel is a nod to the festering unemployment issue

For a nation that has had a significant demographic dividend – the working age population is much larger than the non-working age sections – finding productive employment for its youth was to be an imperative for India. Yet, in the last few years, unemployment has remained a major concern – the leaked Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) in 2018 revealed that India's unemployment rate was the highest (6.07%) in four decades. The latest PLFS suggests that the numbers now are not so drastic, with the overall unemployment rate at 4.2% in 2020-21 compared to 4.8% in 2019-20 and the labour force participation rate (LFPR) increasing to 41.6%, up from 40.1% in 2019-20. In terms of the more widely used statistic internationally, the current weekly status of unemployment, the figure of 7.5% for all persons in 2020-21 is still worrying. But, the PLFS data will not bring much cheer to the Government despite a decrease in unemployment, according to official data. This is because the decrease, says the PLFS, has also coincided with the transfer of employment into lower productive and unpaid jobs away from salaried employment. Worryingly, industrial jobs have decreased with more employment in agricultural and farm-related jobs – a trend that accelerated following the lockdown and has not reversed since then. Unemployment rates among the educated (above secondary education – 9.1%) and the youth (age between 15-29 – 12.9%) have only declined marginally.

Wage rates have continued to remain lower for those employed in either salaried jobs or self-employed compared to the pre-pandemic period, with the increases being marginal in the year following lockdown-driven days of the pandemic. It is clear that the Government must tackle unemployment and, concomitantly, the quality of employment issue, on a war footing. In this regard, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's announcement that the Government will be recruiting 10 lakh personnel within the next 18 months (vacancies in the Railways, the armed forces and GST departments among others) should be seen as a step in the right direction. The latest data showed that there were 8.86 lakh vacant jobs among all central government civilian posts as of March 2020. Mr. Modi's announcement was not about the creation of a large chunk of new jobs; the bulk of the promised employment is to fill up vacancies. But even this measure would be ameliorative in the real economy that continues to remain distressed, a consequence of the BJP-led government's mismanagement and the effects of the pandemic in the last few years. The country cannot afford to squander more years in its race to reap the benefits of its demographic dividend, and the push to provide jobs for those seeking to enter the labour force, even if belated, will help ease matters for the medium term.

Race for relevance

The Fed's rate hike can accelerate the exit of foreign portfolio investments

The U.S. Federal Reserve on Wednesday implemented its steepest interest rate increase in more than 27 years as it fights to rein in runaway inflation. Barely six weeks after raising the policy rate by half a percentage point and underscoring the likelihood of "additional 50-basis-point increases" at the next couple of meetings, Chairman Jerome Powell stressed it had become "essential" to increase the rate instead by 75 basis points to bring inflation down. The overarching message, he asserted, was that the Fed recognised the 'hardship high inflation was causing' and had the resolve to restore price stability with singular focus. Acknowledging that inflation had 'surprised to the upside' since the Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) had last met in May, he said the committee agreed that the larger increase was required to anchor inflation expectations. With U.S. Consumer Price Index based inflation quickening to a fresh four-decade high of 8.6% in May, spurred by housing, petrol and food prices, the Fed admitted that price pressures had spread to a broad range of goods and services. Even as it realises that it has very little control over supply side factors, including Russia's invasion of Ukraine and COVID-related lockdowns in China, the U.S. central bank said it was determined to continue raising interest rates till it saw 'compelling evidence' that inflation was slowing towards its 2% goal. Mr. Powell emphasised that yet another 'unusually large' 75-basis-point or a 50-basis-point increase was 'most likely' in the meeting in July.

For Mr. Powell and fellow FOMC members, focusing unrelentingly on taming price gains through monetary action, including raising borrowing costs and gradually tightening liquidity, risks squeezing the economy into a recession. It is also a scenario mirrored earlier this month in forecasts by almost 70% of academic economists, polled by the *Financial Times* and the University of Chicago, who foresee the U.S. economy shrinking in 2023. The Fed recognises that the tighter financial conditions have tempered demand, even as it posits that real GDP growth has rebounded on strong consumption spending. Mr. Powell, who had in May underlined that the Fed would not hesitate to move policy to 'restrictive' levels if needed, on Wednesday flagged the reductions in the FOMC's median projections for growth. Central bankers now see the U.S. economy expanding by 1.7% both in 2022 and 2023, slower than the March forecasts of 2.8% and 2.2%, respectively. For India, the Fed's actions are likely to result in an acceleration in the recent exodus of foreign portfolio investments, spur more gains for the dollar against the rupee thus widening the trade deficit, and also fuel faster inflation as imported goods, including crude oil, become costlier.

Bulldozer injustice to 'teach a lesson'

In today's interpretation of the law in some States, the tempter's provocation is overlooked and the tempted found guilty

MADAN B. LOKUR

Shakespeare, speaking through Angelo in *Measure for Measure*, asks a pertinent question that resonates even today: "The tempter or the tempted, who sins most?" In the law on sedition, the Supreme Court of India made it clear that the one inciting violence is the guilty person. Ergo, the tempter sins most. In today's interpretation of the law, it does not matter whether there is incitement or not; a charge of sedition will be slapped anyway if the powers that be do not 'like' what somebody has said or tweeted.

Bulldozer justice

But the law gets more complicated when a fringe but influential national spokesperson incites violence by saying something offensive about the Prophet. The naya law seems to overlook the provocation of the tempter, but finds the tempted guilty. The guilty are then punished by a common judge, jury and executioner and also given double engine punishment: arrest, followed by arbitrary and retributive demolition of their residential accommodation, through what is now commonly referred to as bulldozer justice. I prefer to call it bulldozer injustice.

There are adequate provisions in the Indian Penal Code for the police to act against any violator, but the law seems to be inapplicable if the tempter is an influential fringe or well connected. So, a call for *goli maro* is ignored; senseless lynching invites garlands for the accused; a call for genocide is a bit of a nuisance. Is it then surprising that something offensive said about the Prophet invites only a light rap on the knuckles? If that is deemed to be punishment enough, then the exercise of a fundamental right to protest by thousands of people across the country is understandable. Persons accused of far lesser offences have had charges of sedition foisted on them. The less fortunate have been subject to anti-terror laws such as the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, while the unfortunate are imprisoned under the National Security Act (NSA) or the Public Safety Act.

When the state acts

Is there a constitutional right to resort to violence during a protest? Absolutely not. The Constitution of India permits only a peaceful assembly without arms. Stones or brickbats can be weaponised and are a no-no. Violence in protests cannot be justified under any circumstances, whatever the cause. A light rap on the knuckles to the tempter does not warrant the use of a knuckle duster by the tempted.

But, as they say, violence begets violence. And so, the state comes down on the violent protesters with a heavy hand and the apocryphal iron fist made popular a couple of years ago by a learned Supreme Court judge. The state then uses its machinery, literally, in the form of bulldozers to demolish the residential premises of those believed to be indulging in violent protests. The long arm of the law is employed to identify the protestors and a list is prepared of those who need to be 'taught a lesson'. Remember, a similar stratagem was used in 1984 following the assassination of Mrs. Indira Gandhi.

PTI

Back then, we called it genocide, while today we call it 'teaching a lesson'.

Fundamental rights

Some of the violent protesters own a house or a shop or a stall but many do not. Activist Javed Mohammad of Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh, was unlucky enough that his wife owned a house. So, as a chapter in the lesson to be taught, he was first jailed and then her house demolished through a constitutional violation. Ironically, two judgments of the Supreme Court from Uttar Pradesh consider shelter as a fundamental right. In *U.P. Avas Evam Vikas Parishad vs Friends Coop. Housing Society Ltd* (1996) it was held that "The right to shelter is a fundamental right, which springs from the right to residence assured in Article 19(1)(e) and the right to life under Article 21 (of the Constitution)". In *Chameli Singh vs State of Uttar Pradesh* (1996) it was held that "The right to shelter when used as an essential requisite to the right to live should be deemed to have been guaranteed as a fundamental right". Those lucky enough not to have relatives owning a house will probably get brutally thrashed like the hapless victims of a lathi charge in a police station in Saharanpur, Uttar Pradesh, whose video has gone viral.

How does the state justify the constitutional transgression? It says, as reported, that Mr. Javed's house was illegal and a notice to demolish it was served on him (or pasted on the wall) and he did not avail the opportunity of a hearing granted as per law. It is difficult to believe the state for a variety of reasons.

An illegality

First, the state collected taxes from Mr. Javed for the so-called illegal construction. Was the illegality of construction condoned? If not, was not the state complicit in perpetuating the illegality and also earning out of it? Has any action been taken by the state against its complicit officials?

Second, the well-settled principle requiring state action to be just, fair and reasonable mandates, in the absence of any terrible urgency, another opportunity to Mr. Javed to appear for the hearing. Maybe he was sick or out of town. Why was this routine 'another opportunity' denied to him?

Third, Mr. Javed's house was demolished on a Sunday which is a government holiday. Even in NSA cases, the Supreme Court excludes Sundays for dealing with a representation against preventive detention. It is good if the government works on holidays as well, but could not the benefit of a government holiday be passed on to Mr. Javed by an "efficient" government? Let us be realistic.

Fourth, the demolition order was pasted on the wall of Mr. Javed's house on Saturday night and the demolition took place on Sunday morning, giving no time to him or his wife to challenge the correctness of the demolition order in a court of law or file an appeal. Is this just, fair and reasonable?

Fifth, the Delhi High Court decided a case in which the Uttar Pradesh police unlawfully whisked away two residents of Delhi and managed to have them sent to judicial custody for almost two months on no charges at all. The Additional Advocate General of U.P. admitted that the police officers concerned made false statements before the court, created false documents in the investigation and even before the Special Investigation Team constituted to investigate the issues flagged by the High Court (*Teenu vs Govt. of NCT of Delhi*) (2022). Clearly, the U.P. police have a rather unenviable track record. Facts and documents in Mr. Javed's case may equally be manufactured. Sorry, but the demolition saga smacks of vendetta, legal and factual mala fides.

Need for accountability

What is the solution? First, the state should adequately compensate Mr. Javed to enable him to rebuild his house. Second, it should give him an equal amount of compensation for the mental distress caused to him and his family. Third, the officers concerned at all levels must be held accountable and punished enough to 'teach them a lesson'. Accountability jurisprudence must take root in India and the culture of impunity banished. Fourth, disband the Uttar Pradesh State Human Rights Commission, a body that apparently sees no evil, hears no evil and does no good.

Conclusion: The tempter has achieved her purpose and the tempted can only feel sorry for themselves and say goodbye to the rule of law.

Justice Madan B. Lokur, a former judge of the Supreme Court of India, is presently a judge of the Supreme Court of Fiji

The floundering of Israel's uneasy coalition

Riven by crises, it believes that focusing on Iran as the enemy will somehow unite the polarised state

TALMIZ AHMAD

On June 13, just as the government of Naftali Bennett commemorated its one year in office, it was on the verge of collapse. A week earlier, a Bill to extend Israel's criminal law to West Bank settlers, which had been routinely passed earlier, failed to get approval, signifying the deep divide among the coalition partners that make up the government.

This coalition has brought together parties from the hard right, the centre, some left-wing groups, and, uniquely, an Arab party, Ra'am, that has an Islamist background. Prime Minister Bennett is from the right wing and was, till recently, the darling of extremist religious groups.

But Mr. Bennett's anxiety to upstage former Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu led him to join this eight-member coalition that had a majority of one in the 120-member Knesset. Mr. Bennett will head the government for half its term, before making way for his partner, Foreign Minister Yasir Lapid, for the balance of the term.

Holding the coalition together is a daily challenge: on April 6, it lost its majority when Idit Silman, long affiliated with the religious right, defected to the opposition on the ground that the Jewish identity of the country was being jeopardised. The government then acquired minority status when an Arab member quit the coalition, but promised to support it in the House to prevent a hard right government replacing it. She later withdrew her resignation, but insisted that the Bennett government "be genuine and attentive to the Arab community".

National divisions

The Palestinian-Jewish divide has created turmoil in the country since April when, during the holy month of Ramadan, the two communities made the Al-Aqsa Mosque the locale for violent confrontations. There were further assaults exchanged between the two sides through to early May. Hardly had these died down when anger flared up again with what the Palestinians believe was the targeted killing of the Al Jazeera journalist, Shireen Abu Akleh, on May 11.

A Palestinian, Shireen had been reporting about events in her home region for nearly 30 years and had acquired an iconic status among Arabs across West Asia. The view across the region is that her killing has restored the Palestine issue to the global agenda.

Within two weeks, Israel was saddled with its next crisis – the annual flag march on May 29 to mark the capture of East Jerusalem in the 1967 war. Last year, the march, that is largely made up of Jewish youth from the extreme right who provocatively pass through the Muslim quarter of the city, had led to an 11-day conflict with Hamas in Gaza and communal violence in Israel itself. This year, Mr. Bennett, taunted by his traditional right-wing cohorts as being soft on Arabs and weak before threats, felt politically compelled to approve the march.

REUTERS

Nearly 70,000 youth, led by Mr. Netanyahu, descended on Jerusalem, waving Israeli flags. Their popular slogans were "Death to Arabs", "Let us burn down your villages" and "The Jewish nation lives". Despite stringent security arrangements, several hundred of them broke into the Al-Aqsa Mosque – they planted Israeli flags, indulged in provocative dancing, and chanted Talmudic prayers.

Still, on June 12, following the defeat of the settlers' bill, the leaders of the coalition parties described their government as "one of the best governments" and pledged that "we will not despair and we will not break". But two days later, Mr. Bennett warned that the government had just "a week or two" to avoid collapse, after a member from his own party refused to back the coalition in the Knesset.

War and peace in West Asia

Iran remains in the sights of all Israeli governments, regardless of their political complexion. On May 22, Israel carried out the killing of an Iranian colonel from the Al Quds Force in Tehran. He was accused in the Israeli media of planning attacks on Israeli and Jewish targets, a charge that was deemed sufficient for Israel to be prosecutor, judge and executioner in a long line of assassinations of Iranian scientists and military personnel.

Israel's Ministers are reported to be lobbying robustly in Washington against the revival of the nuclear agreement. Defence Minister Benny Gantz has even announced that Israel was planning to attack Iran's nuclear sites in a couple of years. A major exercise, involving hundreds of aircraft, took place on June 2, to signal preparations for the proposed assault.

Expanding diplomatic and economic ties with neighbouring Arab states, without conceding anything to Palestinian aspirations, is another area of political consensus in Israel. In early April, Israel hosted a meeting of Arab foreign Ministers of countries that have normalised ties with it, which was attended by the U.S. Secretary of State, Antony Blinken.

Since then, there are regular reports that ties with the United Arab Emirates (UAE) are flourishing – a major trade agreement was signed on May 31 which will cover 96% of bilateral trade, amounting to about $1 billion, and could take trade to more than $10 billion within five years. However, the signing ceremony was abruptly closed to mediapersons as the UAE Foreign Ministry condemned Israeli violence at the Al-Aqsa Mosque by "extremist settlers under the protection of Israeli forces".

The outlook

As the country lurches from crisis to crisis, the government is seen to be paralysed, with the Prime Minister floundering to keep control. He is constantly haunted by the spectre of Mr. Netanyahu calling on the coalition's right-wing members to abandon "the weak and flaccid government" that is harming the country's Jewish identity, and "return home".

But the coalition is holding together because no member is keen on another election; they fear defeats if they do not deliver on issues that immediately matter to the populace battered by the novel coronavirus pandemic – welfare measures for poor families, support for small business, upgradation of national infrastructure. Even the Arab party is anxious to keep the coalition going to prevent the return of Mr. Netanyahu and, over time, increasingly integrate Arabs with the Israeli mainstream.

Israel's principal focus is to normalise ties with Saudi Arabia amidst reports of clandestine interactions between political and security officials and the visit by a major Israeli business delegation to the kingdom. As the Americans attempt to rebuild ties with Saudi Arabia in the context of the ongoing Russian war in Ukraine, it is likely that the kingdom might see value in its ties with Israel to consolidate its position in Washington regardless of who resides in the White House.

U.S. President Joe Biden's visit to the kingdom and Israel next month will focus on promoting formal ties between the two countries as part of mobilising a tough regional coalition against Iran, even as Israel continues its violence and aggression in the region with impunity. This seems to be the only route its leaders have found to keep themselves in power.

Talmiz Ahmad is a former diplomat

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address and the full name or the name with initials.

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Job creation

The mission mode of the 10 lakh government jobs announced by the Prime Minister is in fact aligned to the upcoming Assembly elections, which will culminate in the general election in 2024. The job mission is nothing but a mission to achieve the target of winning a third national term in 2024.
The fact of the matter is the central and State governments have not been filling up vacancies arising from retirement. For example, look at the banking sector. The country's lead nationalised bank has pruned staff in such a way that it has affected services. A service such as seeking clarification or requesting an update of a pass book or even getting a new continuation passbook, results in the standard reply: ' Leave the passbook overnight' or 'Download the SBI app'. Similarly, vacancies of teachers in central schools upon superannuation of teachers are not filled up regularly. Instead, ad hoc teachers are recruited, who join duty in a half-hearted manner. The time has come for the ruling party to stop linking jobs with politics. It is also a mystery why administrative action which should be routine (filling vacancies) needs to wait for the Prime Minister's announcement.

N. NAGARAJAN,
Secunderabad

■ It is fine to be announcing jobs in government entities. It is a step in the right direction, but there is no doubt that the path to be traversed is long and winding. Unemployment is rampant in the country, which has been made worse by the novel coronavirus pandemic, the lockdowns, and the economic slowdown. The loss of jobs in the informal and formal sectors is mind-boggling. A healthy and robust economy with potential for large-scale employment generation is the remedy needed. The Government should leave no stone unturned in its endeavour to create such an environment.

Dr. D.V.G.SANKARARAO,
Nellimarla, Andhra Pradesh

Avoiding the news

The report, "People avoiding news: Reuters study" (June 15), is just a larger reflection of the declining trend in the reading habit, especially among youth. They seem to distressingly prefer seeking comfort in the one-line messages on various social media platforms. I think most people who read newspapers these days are those who are above at least 40 years old. A hesitancy to read and analyse the news has many repercussions, including a lack of general knowledge to start with.

A.R. RAMANARAYANAN,
Chennai

■ It was interesting to note why people tend to avoid the news unlike the time when they would clamour for a copy of the newspaper the first thing in the morning. How times have changed. News is meant to keep a person up to date with developments in the world. It is unfortunate that trust in the news is falling. Has the situation grown so dismal that reading the news makes one feel powerless? And that people would rather not read the news because it ruins their mood? How strange!

PRANATI R. NARAIN,
Bengaluru

IPL auction

It is not for nothing that the IPL media rights auction has seen humongous amounts. Experts would have made precise calculations and the bidders would have taken into consideration the ever-growing viewership. For the common man, the successful bid amounts may have come as a shock but the bidders knew what they were precisely doing.

V. LAKSHMANAN,
Tirupur, Tamil Nadu

Is COVID-19 becoming endemic?

PARLEY

There are indications, but endemicity seems to be a little further away

Is COVID-19 now approaching an endemic stage? While the common interpretation of endemicity is 'this is a disease we no longer have to be worried about', what does it actually mean in epidemiological terms and what are the concerns for public health for the future? Will the infection spread at more predictable rates and will it perhaps become more manageable? In a conversation moderated by **Ramya Kannan**, *Tarun Bhatnagar and K. Kolandaisamy discuss the science behind these questions. Edited excerpts:*

Tarun Bhatnagar
is an epidemiologist and senior scientist at the Indian Council of Medical Research-National Institute of Epidemiology in Chennai

K. Kolandaisamy
is a former director of public health in Tamil Nadu

Scan the QR code to listen to the full interview online

Is COVID-19 on the path to becoming endemic?

Tarun Bhatnagar: As per the classical definition, a disease is endemic when it spreads in a limited area and at a rate which is relatively constant across time. In contrast, during a pandemic, the disease spreads to all the regions of the world and is present in some form or the other in all parts of the world with a relatively high rate of spread. We know that SARS-CoV-2 is still being detected in all parts of the world. In that sense, it is still a pandemic. However, we are seeing that in most or many parts of the world, the rate of spread is coming down, either naturally or with the interventions that have been put in place. So, yes, we probably could be moving towards endemicity. But that seems to be a little further away than where we are now.

K. Kolandaisamy: There are indications that the virus is moving towards endemicity. For example, in Tamil Nadu, we are seeing 200-300 cases, most of them from clusters. This is one indication that the disease might be moving towards endemicity. But we need to be very careful because even after two years, we are not very clear about the origin of this virus. There are three coronaviruses which manifest as common cold in human beings. Then, there was SARS-CoV-I (2002), later called SARS [Severe Acute Respiratory Sydrome], and MERS [Middle East Respiratory Syndrome] (2012), all respiratory viruses. While SARS is not being monitored, tests are still being done for MERS. We are not very sure whether this virus will go the way of SARS, or take the path of MERS, or become like the three common cold viruses. This is a question only time can answer.

During the early part of the pandemic, COVID-19 was likened to the Spanish flu of about 100 years ago, but that flu did not turn endemic. Why do some diseases become endemic while others seem to vanish?

TB: In order to understand the transmission of infectious diseases, we need to think of what is known as the epidemiological triad – the interaction between the agent, which is the organism that causes the disease, the host, which is the human body where the agent resides and spreads, and the environment in which both the agent and the host live and how conducive it is for the transmission of the agent.

The Spanish flu virus was not as transmissible as SARS-CoV-2. In fact, its reproduction rate was between 1 and 2. For SARS-CoV-2, it has gone up to 3, even 4, in some places. Second, we need to think in terms of the host, in order for the virus to spread. During the Spanish flu, it is understood that a bit, probably around a third, of the world's population was affected and infected. It probably led to lower susceptibility, and herd immunity. Finally, the flu virus seemed to prefer a colder environment compared to SARS-CoV-2, which is probably agnostic to the environment, as we have seen.

KK: With the Spanish flu, the movement of soldiers, particularly in Europe, is said to have played a major role in the spread of the disease. Today, the movement of people has become quite phenomenal globally. This means that any disease can spread from anywhere to everywhere and human continuity will be there. Instead of disappearing like the Spanish flu, there is a greater possibility of SARS-CoV-2 moving to the endemic mode.

Can this move to endemicity within a short span of two years be attributed to a triumph of human efforts?

SANDEEP SAXENA

KK: Yes, the one important turning point in this case was the development of vaccines. That played a major role. Also, communication technology helped in disseminating information and awareness very quickly. And, as we now know, although some of the control measures were very harsh, travel restrictions and the initial lockdown measures also helped a lot. It is to be noted that the fact that the pandemic spread very fast was a blessing in disguise: a large number of people were infected and this hastened the process of herd immunity.

TB: I would distribute the credit equally between the virus and us, human beings. In the initial period, the virus spread so much that in a way it was a boon, in terms of people getting natural immunity to that particular strain of the virus. The vaccine has definitely been a game changer. I think it is historic to have a vaccine within such a short period of time, and completely incomparable to any other medical intervention that the world has seen. Even in terms of management of the disease, we le-arned a lot very fast.

What would be the link between cases and deaths in a possible endemic scenario?

TB: If we look at different parts of the world, and India, we're not seeing as many deaths or even hospitalisations. The cases are considerably low, even if they are showing an upward climb. However, we are looking at another sub-lineage of Omicron, BA.4 and BA.5, initially reported from South Africa and now common in several countries. More recent reports from South Africa show a high number of excess deaths related to these sub-variants. Even Portugal, where the vaccination rates are pretty high, is reporting a high number of cases as well as hospitalisations. So, we will have to see how the virus is driving this – how good the virus is in terms of immune escape from natural immunity as well as from vaccine-induced immunity, how long does immunity persist, and the vaccine distribution in the population. These would be the three critical factors that would determine the future in terms of our interaction with the virus.

> **With variants emerging again, the role of genomic surveillance becomes very critical – to be able to identify which is the circulating variant, its characteristics in terms of transmissibility, and ability to cause severe disease.**
> TARUN BHATNAGAR

KK: We need to continue to be very careful in certain areas. We need to take care of people with co-morbid conditions and ensure that their health parameters are under control. For immunocompromised people, public health protocols such as wearing a mask, washing hands, and avoiding crowds are crucial. Besides this, we need to reach out to people who have not yet taken both shots and the booster dose and urge them to take the vaccines while explaining the risks of not being vaccinated. And we will need to continue to monitor [disease spread] and undertake surveillance of disease and morbidity in times to come.

What are the public health measures that governments will have to roll out in an endemic scenario versus a pandemic?

KK: Decades ago, our hospitals had separate wards for infectious diseases. Those were maintained by the local body. In those days, people with, say, smallpox, cholera, TB, chickenpox, acute diarrhoeal disease, etc. would be directed to these special wards or units in hospitals for treatment and, of course, would be segregated from others who were coming to the hospital too. However, over a period of time, with many public health successes – we have eliminated smallpox and there has been a huge decline in cholera cases and other infectious diseases such as chickenpox and measles – these units have been shut down, or are a shell of their former capacity. The system, therefore, had very little capacity to handle infectious diseases when COVID-19 began to spread. An exclusive facility to manage the cases with corresponding facilities for diagnostics and public health interventions is needed.

TB: We are definitely not expecting the virus to disappear. It will probably continue to circulate at various levels in the population. So, the first thing that we need to be thinking of is setting realistic levels of what are the expected deaths or hospitalisations, vis-a-vis the infrastructure that is available. Ultimately, it's about preventing deaths as much as possible. The second is to set targets for reducing transmission. With more transmission, there is a risk of new mutations and variants emerging. So, we need to be looking at clusters or places where we see a higher rate of transmission. We need to set up routine testing facilities which are not camp-based and which are accessible and available to people. With the emerging variants, again, the role of genomic surveillance becomes very critical – to be able to identify which is the circulating variant, its characteristics in terms of transmissibility, and ability to cause severe disease. Accordingly, public health interventions would have to be in place. Two things are really critical: to stop airborne transmission (by wearing masks, especially indoors and in crowded places) and ensure sufficient air ventilation in indoor spaces. I think that is an area in the realm of public health engineering, in terms of designing our indoor spaces and having good ventilation. That would be really important as we move forward in terms of preventing transmission of the virus.

Have there been some missed opportunities in the past couple of years, though much has indeed been done in this country especially in terms of adding to health infrastructure?

KK: We have missed the opportunity to effectively enforce segregation for infectious diseases in our hospitals. A number of pregnant women who got COVID-19 contracted the infection when they were in hospital for a check-up. They were not diseased, but caught the infection in hospital, where there is poor or little infection control or segregation practices. This is unacceptable.

Also, engineering buildings to ensure air flow and good ventilation, particularly in hospitals and public institutions, is very important. We also need to get people to get back to the discipline of following COVID-19 protocols. The National Medical Council can consider offering more specialisation courses in infectious diseases.

TB: In terms of using data for decision-making, a positive that I see is that the pandemic brought together people who were working in their own silos – clinicians, mathematicians, epidemiologists, laboratory professionals, public health practitioners on the ground, anthropologists... So, we have an opportunity to now go further and change the culture of research. These kinds of collaborations help you get a bigger bang for the buck.

We've also developed systems to collect data, to transmit it, to analyse it and use it for various purposes at different levels. But there are opportunities to make that system more robust, more transparent and enable more efficient use of data. This can definitely go a long way in being prepared for the future and then tackling similar kinds of public health emergencies.

NOTEBOOK

Rain alone doesn't make a monsoon

Following an old adage in journalism is perilous to the reporter covering weather and climate

JACOB KOSHY

There is a frequently cited adage in journalism: if one person says it's raining and another says it's dry, the job of the journalist is not to just regurgitate 'both sides' but look out of the window and determine which one is accurate. While this has struck me as simplistic and not really applicable to most stories worth telling, it is particularly perilous to the reporter covering the weather and climate beat.

Any journalist who has been assigned to report on science and the environment would, at some point, have reported on the annual summer monsoon. To the newbie, monsoon means the end of summer, messy roads, and the R.K. Laxman cartoon of the soaked-to-the-sandals meteorologist and the only one in the room without an umbrella. In due course, these perceptions become the monsoon reporter's mantras: "When will it rain? When will it stop raining? Why does our monsoon department always get it wrong?" A senior meteorologist once gave me a two-word, all-encompassing answer: "It depends."

The India Meteorological Department (IMD), arbiter of all things weather, forecasts in April and May how the monsoon, which lasts from June to September, is likely to progress. It also forecasts the advent of the monsoon in Kerala. The IMD does this a few days left or right of June 1. Some years ago, on May 28 or 29, when I was still new to the beat, I got off a call with a relative in Kerala who said it had been pouring and "monsoon" had set in with a vengeance. I checked on the IMD website and there was no declaration yet. I called up an official who said the monsoon hadn't arrived. "But sir, it's raining in Kerala," I said. "Rain alone doesn't make monsoon," came the Yoda-like answer. The thought that my school education had been a lie zipped through my brain, but the statement "it depends" put things in perspective. Kerala, from where the monsoon begins its journey, must tick many boxes unlike the rest of the India, for monsoon to be declared. At least 60% of 14 stations, most of them in the State but some in Lakshadweep and Karnataka, must get 2.5 mm of rain on consecutive days. Then there are criteria such as 'depth of westerlies' and the 'Outgoing Longwave Radiation' that need to be met. The former indicates strong sustained winds and the latter is a long name for clouding. I learned my lesson and with it went the 'look out of the window' instruction.

A favourite word of IMD meteorologists, especially those who deal with the public, is 'normal'. Few terms are as loaded. In 2009, the IMD said the monsoon would be 96% of the historical average. Into this is inbuilt a 5% error margin. So, any number from 101% to 91% and IMD could still claim to be accurate and the monsoon 'normal'. That year saw a massive monsoon failure with India registering its biggest drought in 25 years. Rainfall was just 77% of the average. What was perturbing was that the signs of a disaster were present in June itself, with expectations that an El Nino, characterised by a warming of the Central Pacific, would dry up the monsoon. "How did you get it so wrong," I demanded to know. Privately, meteorologists conceded that they knew a 'deficit' was looming. The IMD had a form of self-censorship in place to not use the term 'drought' and instead say 'deficit.' "Political considerations," one of them told me.

Climate change, of late, has complicated the monsoon. In recent years, September, the month when the monsoon officially recedes, has started to witness multiple downpours and makes up for deficits in previous months. This rain usually spills over into October. "Isn't all of this technically monsoon," I once asked a meteorologist one October. "Well, yes. But our monsoon calendar is strictly June 1 to September 30. Anything before or after isn't monsoon rain," he replied. "But climate change has surely altered these patterns. Shouldn't you account for it in some way," I asked. Pat came the reply: "It depends."

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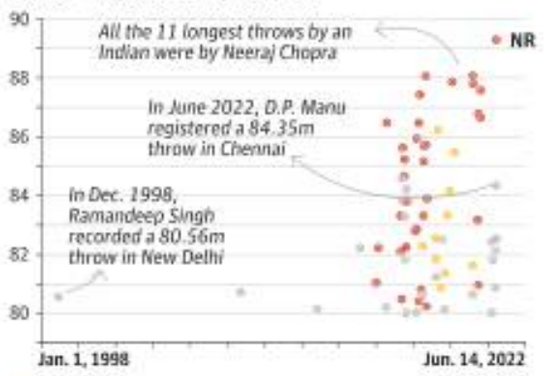
DATA POINT

ILLUSTRATION: MU AJAY KRISHNA

In rarefied air

Olympic champion Neeraj Chopra created a new national record (NR) in javelin throw on Tuesday with a 89.3 metre effort at the Paavo Nurmi Games in Turku, Finland. This is the first time an Indian has crossed the 89m mark. In fact, the top 11 Indian throws are Chopra's. Since 1986*, the world over, there have been 187 better throws than Chopra's national record in recognised athletic events. Of these, 47 throws were by former Czech athelete Jan Zelezny and 30 by the German Johannes Vetter, who is still active. Neeraj Chopra's national record throw of 89.3m has been matched or surpassed only 3% of the times since 1986. By **Rebecca Rose Varghese** and **Vignesh Radhakrishnan**

Among Indian athletes | The chart depicts Indian players with throws longer than the 80m mark. Neeraj Chopra (●) has 34 such throws and Shivpal Singh (●) has 10. ● indicates other athletes

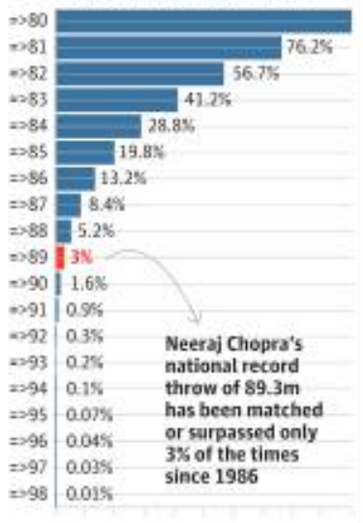

All the 11 longest throws by an Indian were by Neeraj Chopra
NR
In June 2022, D.P. Manu registered a 84.35m throw in Chennai
In Dec. 1998, Ramandeep Singh recorded a 80.56m throw in New Delhi
90
88
86
84
82
80
Jan. 1, 1998
Jun. 14, 2022

• In the analysis only throws above the 80m mark were considered

Among world athletes | The chart shows all the athletes with throws longer than the 89m mark. Czech former track and field athlete Jan Zelezny (●) with 49 throws, German athlete Johannes Vetter (●) with 32 throws and Norwegian athlete Andreas Thorkildsen (●) with 16 throws top the list. ● indicates other athletes

Top countries | The chart depicts the country-athletes combination for all those who have thrown 89.3m or longer in history. Six Germans have reached the mark, the highest among all nations, followed by five Finnish players

A rare throw | The chart depicts the % of throws that were equal to or above a particular mark. For instance, 19.8% of all the throws from 1986 were 85m or above. Only 3% of throws were above 89m



• Data sourced from worldathletics.org

*Only throws post the redesign of men's javelin in 1986 were considered for analysis. That was when the javelin's centre of gravity was moved forward by four centimetres

The Hindu.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

FIFTY YEARS AGO JUNE 17, 1972

ASPAC says it is not a military alliance

Tokyo, June 18: The seventh ministerial conference of the Asian and Pacific Council concluded its three day deliberations in Seoul to-day emphasising the peaceful and non-military nature of the nine-member organisation and seeking to dispel any doubts from the minds of the people that it was militarily motivated. At the same time, a joint communique stressed the open door policy of the organisation to permit membership in it to all countries of the region, regardless of ideologies. Reflecting the general desire of the majority of the member-countries – particularly in view of the fast changes that are coming about in the Asian and Pacific region – to erase suspicions that the ASPAC was some kind of a military alliance, the communique specifically stated that it was not a political or military arrangement directed against other nations. Nor was it an exclusive organisation. The communique declared that ASPAC was open to non-member countries within the region who were ready to make a constructive contribution to its objectives and purposes. It restated its purposes, namely, that the ASPAC was an organisation for regional co-operation pursuing peace and progress in the Asian and Pacific region. It would devote its efforts to promote co-operation in economic technical, social, cultural, and other fields.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO JUNE 17, 1922

Sastri's mission

Mr. Sastri's performances have been in no way creditable either to himself or the people whom he pretends to represent. He has indulged in a great deal of wild and irresponsible talk in the course of his speeches in the important centres of Australia. Explaining the object of his mission to the Australians, he pointed out that India did not object to the "White Australia" policy, and that she only wanted that resident Indians should be accorded better treatment. The obvious implication of this amazing statement is that Australia can impose any disabilities she desires on Indian immigration. Even in the modest demands he makes Mr. Sastri is not in a particular hurry and only in course of time when probably Australians will better realise the essential reasonableness of the cause he so nobly espouses, are the Indians to be accepted as equal citizens with full franchise rights! India desires the same rights in Australia as the Australian has in India.

FROM PAGE ONE

Anti-Agnipath protest turns violent

Protests broke out in different parts of Uttar Pradesh, too. In Bulandshahr, hundreds of youth gathered at the busy Bhood crossing demanding a rollback of the scheme.

Holding the Tricolour, the youth said the government was playing with their future. When the protesters blocked NH-91, the police had to use mild force, and at least eight persons were taken into custody. Similar outbursts were also seen in Unnao, Gonda, and Bareilly districts.

Opposition parties asked the Centre to withdraw the scheme immediately.

The Congress said the Agnipath scheme made a mockery of military training. "It appears to us that the scheme makes a mockery of training; inducts into the defence forces an ill-trained and ill-motivated soldier; and discharges a disappointed and unhappy ex-soldier into society," former Finance Minister P. Chidambaram said.

The Communist Party India-Marxist (CPI-M) said the scheme does disservice to India's national interests. "Professional armed forces cannot be raised by recruiting 'soldiers on contract' for a period of four years. This scheme, to save pension money, severely compromises the quality and efficiency of our professional armed forces," the Left party said. Youth and students organisations have decided to step up the protests.

"We are in touch with all youth and student organisations who are fighting against unemployment and the Agnipath scheme. This government is bringing contract system even in patriotism. A national platform will soon be formed to take this protests forward," Youth Congress president Srinivas B.V. told *The Hindu*.

Students Federation of India general secretary Mayukh Biswas said his organisation is part of the protests in Bihar and Rajasthan.

BMS general secretary Binay Kumar Sinha said the BMS welcomed the announcement of filling 10 lakh posts in government, but opposed the Agnipath scheme.

"It is as good as making Army personnel contract workers. This is not quality employment that will be provided under the scheme," Mr. Sinha said.

(With inputs from Sandeep Phukan in New Delhi, Amarnath Tewary in Patna, Ashok Kumar in Gurugram and Anuj Kumar in Ghaziabad)

Hiring upper age limit raised to 23 for this year

The spokesperson said the upper age limit for the recruitment process under the Agnipath scheme for 2022 had been increased to 23.

Earlier in the day, government officials released a note on "myths and facts" regarding the scheme. The note said it was a myth that "21-year-olds are immature and unreliable" and at no point of time will there be more youth than experienced people among the ranks. The number of Agniveers to be recruited in the first year would only make up 3% of the armed forces. "No change is being done to the regimental system," it said.

"The present scheme will only bring about a right mix of 50%-50%, slowly in a very long run, of youngsters and experienced supervisory ranks," it said.

The note said it is a myth that "no consultation" was held with former armed forces officers before announcing the decision. It said extensive consultations with serving armed forces officers were held over the last two years.

It said that "such short term enlistment system exists in most countries and hence is already tested out and considered best practice for a youthful and agile army." "Additionally, the performance of the Agniveers will be tested before re-induction in the Army after four years. Hence, the Army will get the tested and tried personnel for supervisory ranks," it said.

The note claimed that it is a myth that "Agniveers will be a danger to society and join terrorists."

It stated that "this is an insult to the ethos and values of the Indian armed forces. Youngsters who have worn the uniform for four years will remain committed to the country for rest of their lives."

(With inputs from Vijaita Singh)

Demolitions should not be retaliatory, says SC

The court said that nothing "untoward" should be seen to happen during the weekend.

"There should be some restraint... Everything should be fair. They should not be harmed. The question here is of following due process," Justice Bopanna observed orally.

The court did not give credence to the State's argument that certain "misconceived" third parties such as the Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind had approached the court solely based on media reports about the nature and intent of the demolitions.

"Ultimately, the rule of law should prevail. This is not about who came to the court. This matter requires legal consideration," Justice Bopanna responded.

The court agreed to the State government's suggestion to file an affidavit with details to buttress its claim that the demolitions were done after prior notice was issued to affected persons and the buildings razed down were illegal.

The Bench did not pass any interim order staying the demolitions.

Daily COVID-19 cases cross 12,000 mark

A total of 12,213 cases were reported in a span of 24 hours, taking India's total tally of COVID-19 cases since the onset of the pandemic to 4,32,57,730 while the death toll has climbed to 5,24,803 with 11 fresh fatalities, the data updated at 8 a.m. stated.

India had reported over 12,000 COVID-19 cases on a single day the last time on February 24, when it reported 13,166 new cases.

The daily test positivity rate was recorded at 2.35% while the weekly positivity rate was at 2.38%, according to the Health Ministry. Mumbai has reported the highest number of new cases, 2,366, taking the active caseload there to 13,005. The 11 new fatalities include three from Kerala.

Reconsider Agnipath scheme, JD(U) tells Centre

NDA ally takes a stand different from BJP's, says protests by aspirants is spreading fast in Bihar and other parts of country

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
PATNA

At a time when violent protests over the Agnipath scheme announced by the Union government for short-term recruitment in the defence services spread across Bihar, the Janata Dal(U) on Thursday suggested that the government "reconsider" the scheme.

Tagging the Prime Minister's Office, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, JD (U) leader and the party's Parliamentary Board chairman Upendra Kushwaha, in a tweet, said the government should reconsider the plan to change the process of recruitment in the Army, the Air Force and the Navy through the Agniveer and Agnipath schemes.

BJP's response

The JD(U), which is part of the ruling alliance with the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in Bihar and the Centre, has, of late, been taking a different stance from that of its ally on several issues, including the anti-conversion law, caste census and population control.

"There is no need for any such remark or comment at this time of turmoil. Mr. Kushwaha could have waited for some more time before making his remark, which smacks of the Opposition's voice," a senior State BJP leader preferring anonymity told *The Hindu*.

Dissenting voices: Youngsters raise slogans during a protest against the Agnipath scheme, in Meerut on Thursday. • PTI

'Check violence'

A JD(U) leader and party MLA said, "Apparently, the plan or scheme for short-term recruitment in defence services by the Central government does not work. The Central government must reconsider it. See how the protests by aspirants is spreading fast to other areas in the State and outside. It must be checked on time."

Objections are being raised against the "temporary" system of recruitment under the Agnipath scheme, leaving aspirants with fears of unemployment after the four years provided under it are over.

Protests against the scheme turned violent for the second consecutive day in Bihar, and incidents of rail and road traffic blockage were reported from several places.

At some places, protesters set ablaze train coaches and vandalised the vehicle of a BJP MLA, Aruna Devi, and the BJP party office in Nawada. At several places, the police baton-charged protesters to disperse them from railway stations.

Hiring soldiers for a few years not a good idea: Amarinder

Former Punjab CM urges Centre to review the policy

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHANDIGARH

Former Punjab Chief Minister Amarinder Singh on Thursday suggested that the Centre review the Agnipath policy for recruitment in defence forces.

"It will dilute the long existing distinct ethos of regiments," Capt. Singh (retd.) said, adding, "a four-year service is too short for a soldier".

"Why does the Government of India need to make such radical changes in the recruitment policy, which has been working so well for the country for so many years? Hiring soldiers for four years, with effective service of three years, is not at all militarily a good idea," said the Punjab Lok Congress chief, who tied up with the BJP in the 2021 Assembly election.

> **Why does the Government of India need to make such radical changes in the recruitment policy which has been working so well for the country for so many years**
> CAPT. AMARINDER SINGH
> Former Punjab Chief Minister

In a statement, he strongly opposed the "'all-India, all-class" recruitment policy, saying it will dilute the ethos of the regiments.

Distinct ethos

The different regiments such as the Sikh Regiment, the Dogra Regiment, the Madras Regiment and so on had their own distinct ethos, which was very important from the military point of view and which seemed to have been overlooked, he said.

Mr. Singh, a military historian, said the present system had worked so well all these years. Besides, it would be very difficult for recruits from different cultural backgrounds to adjust in a culturally different environment that was exclusive to a particular regiment and that too within such a short span of time.

"The existing short-duration tenure system of seven and five years is fine, but four years, which once training and leave period are excluded, effectively comes to less than three years, will not be workable," the former Chief Minister said.

'Scheme may give rise to disaffection among youth'

Number of those unemployed will keep rising, says BJP MP

NISTULA HEBBAR
NEW DELHI

BJP MP Varun Gandhi, in a letter to Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, questioned several provisions of the new short-term, contractual, armed forces recruitment scheme Agnipath, and expressed apprehensions that the scheme may give rise to disaffection among the youth.

In his letter, Mr. Gandhi said that in his interactions with young people, he found that there were many doubts in their minds over the provisions of the scheme.

Worry factors

Its short-term (four-year stint), contractual nature (with only 25% absorbed into the Indian armed forces after the four-year term) and no provision for pension were some of the issues that Mr. Gandhi said worried the youth.

Varun Gandhi

"As 75% of soldiers will become 'unemployed' after four years and their total numbers will keep rising every year, it will give rise to more disaffection among the youth," Mr. Gandhi said.

He asked about the prospects for these retired soldiers when the corporate sector had not shown much interest in hiring even the regular military personnel who retired after 15 years.

Financial hardship

"Four years of service will disrupt their education, and they will also face difficulties in getting another job or more education as they will be older to others with similar qualification," he said, adding "they will face financial hardship as well".

"These soldiers with only six-month basic training may be a cause of disruption to the existing regimental formations," he added, also stating that the low number of regular absorption of Agniveer will only result in the waste of training costs.

Unidentified militant killed in Kulgam

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
SRINAGAR

One unidentified militant was killed in the Mishipora area of Kulgam when security forces engaged with two separate groups of militants hiding in Anantnag and Kulgam districts of south Kashmir.

The police said a search had been under way in Mishipora since Tuesday. The militants, hiding in dense orchards, engaged with the security forces.

"The operation is continuing," the police said.

In Anantnag district of South Kashmir, the police said they had established contact with militants hiding at Hangalgund in the Kokernag area.

"An encounter has started. The police and security forces are on the job," the police said.

Pakistan continues to disturb peace in India, says Rajnath

The Defence Minister praises armed forces in Kashmir

PEERZADA ASHIQ
SRINAGAR

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, who arrived in the Kashmir Valley on Thursday on a two-day visit, said that Pakistan was still pursuing a policy of "bleed India with thousands of cuts".

"Pakistan continuously tries to disturb peace in the country. It has the policy of bleed[ing] India with thousands of cuts. However, you [soldiers] are the fencing wire of the country because of which they [Pakistan] themselves get cut. The country has faith and trust in the Army. People know you are ready for any eventuality," said Mr. Singh, who travelled to frontier areas in north Kashmir's Baramulla.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh during a visit to a border area. • PTI

Mr. Singh also paid tributes to the soldiers who died during the face-off with Chinese soldiers in 2020.

He tweeted: "Remembering the heroes of Galwan who fought valiantly for the honour of the country and laid down their lives on June 15-16, 2020. Their courage, bravery and supreme sacrifice will never be forgotten. I pay homage to these bravehearts."

In Baramulla, the Defence Minister praised the role of the Army, the Central Reserve Police Force and the J&K police in their efforts to contain terrorism in the Union Territory.

"The [erstwhile] State also witnessed terror activities in the past. Due to the relentless efforts of the personnel of the armed forces, BSF (Border Security Force), the CRPF and the J&K police, there has been a significant decline in the number of terror activities in the State recently. The credit for that goes to the Army, the CRPF and the J&K Police," Mr. Singh said.

Bilawal makes pitch for engagement with India

'Pak. already internationally isolated'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
ISLAMABAD

Pakistan's Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Thursday made a strong pitch for re-engaging with India, saying cutting ties with New Delhi would not serve the country's interests as Islamabad was already "internationally isolated and disengaged".

Bilawal Bhutto Zardari

Addressing the Founding Day ceremony at the Institute of Strategic Studies in Islamabad, Mr. Zardari said: "Pakistan and India have a long history of war, conflict. Today, where we have serious disputes, the events of August 2019 cannot be taken lightly."

Mr. Zardari asked those present at the event whether cutting ties with India was serving Pakistan's interests. "That I, as Foreign Minister of Pakistan, as the representative of my country, not only don't speak to the Indian government but I also don't speak to the Indian people. Is that the best way to communicate or achieve Pakistan's objective," the Minister asked.

He blamed the previous government's flawed policies because of which Pakistan "is internationally isolated and internationally disengaged".

'Deploy Central forces in Bengal if needed'

Take steps in advance: Calcutta HC

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
KOLKATA

The Calcutta High Court has directed the West Bengal government to call for Central forces, if the need arises, before the situation goes out of control or before any loss of life or property takes place in the State.

The order comes in the context of violence reported in various parts of the State due to controversial remarks directed at Prophet Muhammed by former BJP spokespersons.

Assess ground situation

"Having regard to the apprehension which have been expressed, we direct the State authorities to assess the ground situation in advance and take steps to call for the Central forces in terms of earlier directions in case if the need so arises, before the situation goes out of control or before any loss of life or property takes place," a Division Bench said.

The court directed the State authorities to take all possible preventive steps to ensure that no such incident takes place and to take expeditious steps to collect the video footage of the violence. Violence was reported in Howrah, Murshidabad and Nadia.

Advocate-General S.N. Mookerjee had told the court that 218 people had been arrested in connection with the violence. He had told the court that 99 arrests were made in places under the Howrah police commissionerate jurisdiction and 17 FIRs filed, while in the Howrah rural area, nine FIRs were filed and 38 people were apprehended.

ASEAN-India meet discusses remarks on Prophet informally

Singapore Foreign Minister flags need to flay hate speech

KALLOL BHATTACHERJEE
NEW DELHI

The controversy over the derogatory comments about Prophet Muhammed was discussed "informally" during the 24th ASEAN-India ministerial meeting, Foreign Minister of Singapore Vivian Balakrishnan said on Thursday.

The 10-member South-east Asian grouping has countries such as Indonesia and Malaysia that have condemned the remarks made by Nupur Sharma and Naveen Kumar Jindal, who were sacked as BJP spokespersons over the remarks.

"This episode is another stark reminder why we need to be careful and why we need to strongly reject hate speech, incendiary speech, speech which incites or aggravates, or causes insult or division within societies," said Mr. Balakrishnan, who described the comments as "a delicate subject".

Minister meets Nadda

In an unusual turn, Mr. Balakrishnan met BJP president J.P. Nadda on Wednesday where a wide range of issues were discussed. The visiting Minister mentioned Singapore's strict laws against hate speech, and said the country was "on the right track". "And so long as we remember that and treat each other with respect, we can live and let live. In fact, we can live well as a cohesive, multiracial, multi-religious, multilingual society," Mr. Balakrishnan was quoted as saying by a leading online channel of Singapore.

The ASEAN has Indonesia, the largest Muslim-majority country in the world, as its member. Malaysia and Brunei are two other Muslim-majority members of ASEAN. The rest of the member countries, Singapore included, have minority Muslim population.

Barring Myanmar, all the countries were represented at the level of the Foreign Ministers at the meeting. Myanmar was represented by the Embassy officials in Delhi. External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar said the Ukraine crisis had added to the post-pandemic uncertainties and contributed to rising prices of a wide range of items such as fertilizers and energy. The meeting skipped mention of the Rohingya crisis and the military crackdown in Myanmar, but praised India-ASEAN cooperation to fight transnational crimes.

SC judge flown to Delhi after falling ill

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Supreme Court judge Justice M.R. Shah was airlifted to Delhi from Himachal Pradesh after he experienced discomfort in the chest.

The judge later appeared in a short video to say that his condition was stable.

"By the grace of God, I am okay and stable. Nothing to worry. I am reaching Delhi and you can see me. You can watch. By the grace of God, I had the 'darshan' yesterday and the day before... I am leaving with all blessings to me and my family. God bless everybody, and me also," Justice Shah said in the video.

CJI visited to Justice M R Shah at Escort Hospital New Delhi. He enquired about the health of Justice Shah from Doctors.

Congress to contest validity of ED's case

Party says the agency proceeded with the investigation against Sonia and Rahul without an FIR

DEVESH K. PANDEY
ABHINAV LAKSHMAN
NEW DELHI

ECIR took cognisance of charges against YIL, Congress chief Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi. • PTI

The issue of whether the Enforcement Directorate (ED) can register a money laundering case even in the absence of a first information report (FIR) is all set to be brought before the court in the *National Herald* case. The Congress has contended that the agency is proceeding without an FIR for the scheduled offence under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act.

Now, the point of contention of the defence before the competent court would be whether the agency was empowered under the PMLA to register the Enforcement Case Information Report (ECIR) without an FIR, senior advocate Ramesh Gupta, who has represented the Congress leaders in the case, said.

The ED's initial position over seven years ago was that an FIR was mandatory to register an ECIR. However, sources said, it was overturned by a subsequent circular that allowed the agency to do without it in matters where a magistrate had taken cognisance of a scheduled offence, in line with what the complainant in the case, BJP leader Subramanian Swamy, has argued.

According to documents reviewed by *The Hindu*, the agency in January 2015 concluded that "... for registering the Enforcement Case Information Report (ECIR), the requirement of First Information Report (FIR), under Section 154 of Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 and its forwarding to a Magistrate under Section 157 of Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (2 of 1974), is essential".

The issue at hand was "registration of Enforcement Case Information Report (ECIR), in respect of Scheduled Offence case where the Magistrate has taken cognisance but First Information Report (FIR) has not been registered...".

However, the initial position of the agency was overturned within months, later paving the way for an ECIR about nine months ago after a court took cognisance of charges against Young Indian Ltd. (YIL), Congress chief Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi and others, based on Dr. Swamy's court complaint. Earlier, having filed the complaint before a magistrate's court in Delhi's Patiala House in February 2013, Dr. Swamy wrote to the ED in July 2014, seeking a money-laundering investigation.

Dr. Swamy's complaint alleged that assets of Associated Journals Ltd. (AJL) were fraudulently acquired by the not-for-profit company YIL, in which Ms. Gandhi and her son owned a 38% stake each.

The YIL paid ₹50 lakh for getting the rights to recover the ₹90-crore debt the AJL owed to the Congress on account of interest-free loans given by the party from 2000 to 2011, as alleged.

Income Tax order

Now, the ED is continuing with its investigation even as the trial court proceedings in Dr. Swamy's complaint have been stayed by the Delhi High Court, which is in the middle of deciding whether an Income-Tax Assessment Order (AO) from 2017 can be introduced as evidence.

Dr. Swamy had filed an application to introduce this AO in his case during his cross-examination, saying it corroborated the allegations in his complaint. The court had agreed but held that this could happen only after his cross-examination.

Challenging this decision, Dr. Swamy had approached the Delhi High Court with a request to stay the trial court proceedings until it was decided whether the AO could be introduced immediately. The stay was granted.

Amid this, the ED approached the special court hearing Dr. Swamy's case on April 30, with an application seeking certified copies of Income Tax Department documents, which, sources said, included the tax proceedings and investigation undertaken for issuing the abovementioned AO. The special court listed the matter for next hearing on May 30.

On May 30, the ED appeared in court only to submit that it had now acquired the papers and withdrew its application.

Congress MPs complain to Speaker against Delhi Police

ED may postpone questioning of Rahul Gandhi to Monday

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Congress workers during a protest against the Enforcement Directorate's interrogation of Rahul Gandhi. • PTI

Congress MPs called on the Lok Sabha Speaker and the Rajya Sabha Chairman on Thursday to register protest against Delhi Police personnel who allegedly treated them like "terrorists" even as former party chief Rahul Gandhi wrote to the Enforcement Directorate (ED) seeking postponement of his Friday questioning to next week.

Reports said the agency is likely to put off the questioning to Monday, though no formal communication has been received.

While the State units of the Congress took out protest marches to the Raj Bhavans in every State, a delegation of senior leaders is likely to call on the President on Friday to highlight the Delhi Police's "high-handed" behaviour.

Earlier in the day, Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge led a delegation to Chairman M. Venkaiah Naidu, while Lok Sabha leader Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury led one to Speaker Om Birla.

They alleged that their privileges as MPs had been breached and demanded lawful action against the Delhi Police and handed over a pen drive containing videos of the alleged harassment by police personnel.

Names two officials

Lok Sabha member S. Jothimani formally wrote to the Speaker, naming two officials for violating her privilege of being an MP by "brutally assaulting her and tearing her clothes" as excessive force was used.

Since June 13, Congress leaders and MPs have been staging demonstrations against the ED for questioning Mr. Gandhi in an alleged money laundering case linked to the *National Herald* case.

"The manner in which the police have treated us, looks as if we are all terrorists," Mr. Chowdhury told presspersons.

"The Modi and Amit Shah government is turning this *Amrit kaal* into a poison *kaal*? Have there never been agitations and we are only trying to put across our side peacefully in a Gandhian way?" he asked.

'Mental torture'

Mr. Kharge said they had told the Chairman that MPs were taken to police stations as the Delhi Police wanted "to harass and mentally torture the MPs and violate their privileges".

"We wanted the Chairman to take note of this and take action. We want this be treated as a privilege notice and it is the right of the Chairman to defend us for violation of our rights and ask them how MPs were detained. The Chairman said he will examine this and get details of the incidents," he said.

Leaders commented on reports in a section of the media that Mr. Gandhi had put the onus of all financial dealings regarding *National Herald* on late Motilal Vohra during his questioning.

"The ED cannot leak its version of the investigation," Mr. Chidambaram said.

"The fact that the ED has leaked selected parts of the investigation according to their understanding clearly establishes bias and prejudice," he added.

Rajya Sabha member Vivek Tankha served a "cease and desist" notice to Home Minister Amit Shah, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and Law Minister Kiren Rijiju, asking them to stop using the ED as a tool to "settle political scores and spread false narratives".

Mr. Gandhi wrote to the ED to postpone his questioning citing ill-health of his mother Sonia Gandhi, who is undergoing treatment for post-COVID issues.

Jairam to head Cong. communication wing

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Jairam Ramesh will head the Congress' merged communication wing, including social and digital media, the party announced on Thursday.

The merger of different media departments to create a unified new entity is the first major organisational change to be implemented after the *Chintan Shivir* held last month.

The former chairman of the media department, Randeep Surjewala, has been relieved of his responsibilities as the media department head but will continue as the general secretary of party affairs in Karnataka, a State where elections are due in mid-2023.

Mr. Ramesh has been brought in as the head at a time when the party is facing an unprecedented political crisis.

Law not equal for all: Sena

STAFF REPORTER
MUMBAI

Slamming the BJP over the 'harassment' of Congress leader Rahul Gandhi using the Enforcement Directorate, the Shiv Sena on Thursday said the principle that "all are equal before law" is dead in India.

The only tool left to be used to finish off the Opposition in the country is a gas chamber as used by Hitler, said an editorial in the party mouthpiece.

'Rahul's interrogation is a message to Opposition'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Subjecting former Congress president Rahul Gandhi to extended hours of questioning by the Enforcement Directorate is an intimidatory tactic, D. Raja, general secretary of the Communist Party of India, said on Thursday.

Mr. Raja said the ED's investigations should be seen as a message to the rest of the Opposition.

"Mr. Gandhi belongs to the country's oldest political party and the lead Opposition force. By calling him again and again for questioning and detaining him for extended hours, the government simply is sending out a message to every Opposition party in the country that if they oppose the government, they too have to brace themselves to face similar measures," Mr. Raja added.

Naresh Patel not to join politics; focus only on Patidar community

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
AHMEDABAD

Prominent Patidar community leader Naresh Patel on Thursday announced that he is not joining politics or any political party ahead of the Gujarat Assembly election. He ended the suspense over his joining any party as the Bharatiya Janata Party, the Congress and the Aam Aadmi Party in the State were trying to welcome him into their fold.

On Thursday, he told presspersons in Rajkot that he has postponed joining politics respecting the feelings of the community elders who advised him to focus on his community and social services.

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice

Tender No: 19/2022-23/KWA/PHC/TVLA; 20/2022-23/KWA/PHC/TVLA
(1) JJM - 5th SLSSC - RWSS to Cherukole, Naranganam & Ranni (part) Grama Panchayaths- Supplying and Laying Distribution lines, RWPM, CWPM and providing 8815 FHTCs in various wards including road restoration works. (2) JJM - 5th SLSSC - WSS to Pandalam Thekkekkara & Thumpamon Panchayaths - Supplying & Laying CWGM 300mm DI K9 pipe from existing OHSR at Chirakkal to OHSR at Keerukuzhi, 200mm DI K-9 CWGM from OHSR at Keerukuzhi to OHSR at Malappuram, 200mm DI K-9 CWPM from OHSR at Keerukuzhi to OHSR at Ayanikkoattam, Pasenthal, Distribution network and providing 5775FHTCs in Pandalam Thekkekkara & Thumpamon Panchayaths. EMD: Rs.500000/- Each. Tender fee: Rs.1680/-each. Last Date for submitting Tender: 05-07-2022, 02.00 pm. Phone : 0469-2600162.
Website: www.kwa.kerala.gov.in www.etenders.kerala.gov.in
KWA-JB-GL-6-370-2022-23 Superintending Engineer, PH Circle, Pathanamthitta

TAMIL NADU WATER SUPPLY AND DRAINAGE BOARD
INVITATION OF BIDS – TWO COVER – ITEMWAR TENDER SYSTEM
(E-Submission) – SHORT TERM- Third Call

IFB No.	01/ F. CWSS to 22 habitations/SDO II/ CW /2022/Dt : 14.06.2022
Fund	Jal Jeevan Mission 2021-22
Eligibility	Registered Class I Bidders (Civil)
Tender Invitee	The Chief Engineer, TWAD Board, Madurai - 625 007
Sale of Bid	17.06.2022 to 01.07.2022 upto 17.45 hours
EMD Payable at	Executive Engineer, Urban Division, Tirunelveli
Available website	E-Tendering website www.tntenders.gov.in
Pre Bid meeting	24.06.2022 at 11.00 hours at the office of the Tender Invitee
Bid Submission	02.07.2022 before 15.00 hours at the office of the Tender Invitee. Digitally signed encrypted Tenders through E-Tendering website www.tntenders.gov.in
Bid opening	04.07.2022 at 15.30 hours at the office of the Tender Invitee through E-Tendering website

Sl. No.	Name of work	Approximate value of work (Rs.in Crore including GST)	Bid Security (Rs.in lakhs)
1	Providing CWSS to 22 habitations in Manur Union of Tirunelveli District including maintenance for a period of 12 months (Period of completion – 12 months)	13.50	10.15

DIPR/ 2649 /TENDER/2022 Chief Engineer, TWAD Board, Madurai
SAVE WATER, CONSERVE WATER. EVERY DROP COUNTS

PARADIP PORT AUTHORITY
e-TENDER CALL NOTICE
Name of the work :- "Supply, Installation, Commissioning and Comprehensive Maintenance (for 5 years) of HVAC System, & UVGI in Airborne Respiratory Infection Isolation Ward, Emergency Department, and Operation Theatre in PPA Hospital, Paradip Port on Turn-Key Basis". Estimated cost: Rs.1,09,49,015.00 (Rupees one crore nine lakh forty-nine thousand fifteen) only. Last date & time of submission of bid : dt.23.06.2022 up to 17:00 Hrs. Refer our website for details https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app.
Chief Medical Officer, PPA
PPA/PR/164/22-23, Dtd.16.06.2022

कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियंता सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, संभाग-द्वितीय उदयपुर मुख्यालय बांसवाड़ा (राज.)
क्रमांक: डी-423 दिनांक: 09.06.2022
निविदा सूचना संख्या: 03/2022-23
NIB CODE: PWD2223A0677
राजस्थान के राज्यपाल महोदय की ओर से भवन/ सड़क/ पुलिया निर्माण/ मरम्मत कार्यों (मय पांच वर्ष की मरम्मत/ दोष निवारण अवधि) हेतु उपयुक्त श्रेणी में पंजीकृत संवेदकों से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में कुल 2 कार्य, जिनकी अनुमानित लागत राशि रूपये 3217.00 लाख है, के लिए ई-टेण्डरिंग प्रक्रिया हेतु ऑनलाईन निविदायें आमंत्रित की जाती हैं।

निविदा फॉर्म डाउनलोड एवं अपलोड करने की तारीख एवं समय	15.06.2022, प्रातः 11.00 बजे से 07.07.2022, सायं 06.00 बजे तक

UBN No.: PWD2223WLOB02413 and PWD2223WLOB02414
निविदा से सम्बन्धित समस्त विवरण एवं निविदा दस्तावेज वेबसाईट "www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in" एवं "www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in" पर देखा जा सकता है। सम्पूर्ण निविदा प्रक्रिया "www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in" पर ऑनलाईन सम्पादित की जावेगी।
(विजय कुमार वर्मा) अति. मुख्य अभियन्ता
सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, संभाग-द्वितीय उदयपुर
DIPR/C/8072/2022 मुख्यालय बांसवाड़ा

RAJASTHAN RAJYA VIDYUT PRASARAN NIGAM LTD.
NIT No. 06, 07 & 08/2022-23
BIDs in prescribed format from Bidders registered in A or AA class in Central/State Govt. departments/undertakings and registered in appropriate class in RVPNL in this Zone/Circle/Division under the jurisdictions of XEN (CIVIL) Jaipur, Alwar and Bharatpur are hereby invited for the work described in NIT No. 06/2022-23, NIT No. 07/2022-23 having Sr. No. 01 and NIT No. 08/2022-23 having Sr. No. 01 to 15. All information regarding BID are available on http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, www.rvpn.co.in and http://sppp.raj.nic.in.
UBN :- VPN2223WSOB00481, VPN2223WSOB00489 to VPN2223WSOB00501 (13) VPN2223WSOB00504 to VPN2223WSOB00506 (3)
Raj.Samwad/C/22/3573 RRVPN/TR-5491/2022 S. E. (Civil), RVPN, Jaipur

PUBLIC NOTICE
It is to inform the common public that Delhi police has registered a case vide FIR No. 350/2010 DATED 09/12/2019 U/S-406/420/409/468/471/120-B/34 IPC & 3/4/5 The Prize Chits and Money Circulation Scheme (Banning) Act 1978, P.S Crime Branch, Delhi against the firm/company namely ROSNEFT HEDGE FUND, RHFGOLDCOIN, EURESCOIN, JACKPOTMANIA and its promoters/directors namely Sandeep Kaushik, Sunil Singh Chauhan, Ashish Malik & Ors. The accused persons cheated the innocent victims on the pretext of providing 20% interest/ month on the investment. The investigation of the case is under progress. If anyone has invested with the above company and accused persons, he may join the investigation of the case along with all the relevant documents/details in the office of Economic Offences Wing at Mandir Marg, New Delhi, Ph. No. 011-23745317.
DP/9333/EOW/22

Government of Kerala
IMPACT Kerala Ltd, Thiruvananthapuram
Ph: 0471-4019877
National Competitive Bidding (E-Tender) Notice
E-Tenders are invited from eligible bidders for the Construction of a Multi species Modern Slaughter House at Thiruvalla Municipality.
Date of Publishing Tender : 18/06/2022
Date of Pre-bid meeting : 29/06/2022
Date of Submission of Tender : 17/08/2022
Date of opening of Tender : 22/08/2022
Detailed information on the same can be obtained from the office of IMPACT Kerala Ltd and in the website: https://impactkerala.lsgkerala.gov.in and https://etenders.kerala.gov.in
(RO/01477/D3/2022/I&PRD) Sd/-, Managing Director

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, Dasarahalli Division, Dasarahalli Zone, #2nd and 4th Cross Road, 2nd Main Road, 3rd Block HMT Layout, near BWSSB Water Tank Nagasandra (Po) Benglauru - 560 073
No: BBMP/EE/DD/TN/20/2022-23 Dated: 15.06.2022
POSTPONMENT OF TENDER NOTIFICATION
Sub: Regarding Postponement of Tender Notification
Ref: 1. E-procurement Tender Notification of this Office No: BBMP/EE/DD/TN/20/2021-22, Dated: 24.01.2022.
With reference to the above subject, the tender was invited, due to technical reasons for item No.27, the pre-bid meeting, last date for submission of tenders and opening of technical and financial bid dates are postponed as mentioned below.
Revised Time Schedule: (1) Pre-bid meeting at office of the Chief Engineer, Dasarahalli Zone, on 22.06.2022 at 11:00 am. (2) Tender must be submitted online through e-procurement portal on or before 28.06.2022 upto 4:00 pm. (3) Technical Bids will be opened in the office of the Executive Engineer, Dasarahalli Division, BBMP on or after 29.06.2022 at 4:30 pm. (4) Financial Bids will be opened in the office of the Executive Engineer, Dasarahalli Division, BBMP on 30.06.2022 at 4:30 pm or after.
Sd/- Executive Engineer, Dasarahalli Division
STAY PROTECTED FROM COVID-19, NO CARELESSNESS UNTIL THERE IS A CURE.
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, वृत कोटा
क्रमांक: 745 दिनांक: 10.06.2022
निविदा सूचना संख्या 03/2022-23
राजस्थान के राज्यपाल महोदय की ओर से पांच साल की मरम्मत सहित के लिये, उपयुक्त श्रेणी में सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग राजस्थान में पंजीकृत संवेदकों एवं राज्य सरकार/ केन्द्र सरकार के अधिकृत संगठनों/ केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग/डाक एवं दूर संचार विभाग/ रेलवे इत्यादि में पंजीकृत उपयुक्त श्रेणी के संवेदकों के समकक्ष हो, से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ई-प्रोक्यूरमेन्ट प्रक्रिया हेतु आनलाइन निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।

मुख्यालय का नाम	:	कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, वृत कोटा
निविदा का कार्य	:	राजकीय कन्या महाविद्यालय रामपुरा कोटा भवन का निर्माण कार्य (1 कार्य)
निविदा की कुल लागत	:	Rs. 340.00 लाख
कुल धरोहर राशि (रूपयों में)	:	अनुमानित लागत की दो प्रतिशत एवं सा.नि.वि. में पंजीकृत संवेदकों से 1/2 प्रतिशत
ऑनलाईन निविदा फार्म मिलने की तारीख	:	15.06.2022 से 04.07.2022 सायं 6.00 बजे तक
ऑनलाईन निविदा फार्म जमा कराने की तारीख	:	15.06.2022 से 04.07.2022 सायं 6.00 बजे तक
ऑनलाईन निविदा/ तकनीकी निविदा खोलने की तिथि	:	निविदा/तकनीकी निविदा खोलने की तिथि 05.07.2022 अपराह्न 03.00 बजे
निविदा वैधता अवधि	:	90 दिवस

UBN No.:- PWD2223WSOB02499
निविदा से सम्बन्धित समस्त विवरण वेबसाईट www.dipr.rajasthan.gov.in", http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in तथा http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है। इच्छुक संवेदकों को अपने डिजिटल हस्ताक्षर के माध्यम से वेबसाईट http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर रजिस्टर करवाना आवश्यक है।
अधीक्षण अभियन्ता
DIPR/C/8140/2022 सा.नि.वि. वृत कोटा

GOVERNAMENT OF KARNATAKA
Water Resource Department
Office of the Executive Engineer, WRDO, No.2 gauging Division, Bagalkote.
No:WRDO/GD-2/PB/TN/11 HO SITE/2022-23/ 252 Date:14.06.2022
TENDER NOTIFICATION
(THROUGH E-PROCUREMENT PORTAL ONLY)
Item wise tender by e-procurement portal in the prescribed form for the work Upgradation of existing 11 manual riverguage stations to Hydrological Observation sites in Northern Karnataka coming under the jurisdiction of Yermarus Circle by "Supply, testing, commissioning, operations and maintenance of continuous discharge flow meters, water level recorders, telemetry data transmission and integrate with data center located at Bengaluru, Karnataka".is invited by the undersigned on behalf of Governor, Govt of Karnataka, Bangalore from the eligible bidder under the Head of Account, NHP. The bid is as per National Competitive Bidding. The amount of Security Deposit as per e-portal (by e-portal) contactors can access and submission of completed e-tendering documents from 16-06-2022 to 19.07.2022 upto 15.00 hours in the website http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in. Tender will be opened on 20-07-2022. Date of prebid Meeting is on 28-06-2022 in the O/O The Project Director, NHP,WRDO,Bengaluru through e-procurement
For more conditions and details visit website http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in. OR at undersigned in all working days during office hours on telephone No. 08354-297367
Sd/-(Raju G Patange)
Executive Engineer, WRDO, No.2 Gauging Division, Baglkot.

कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग संभाग -कोटा
क्रमांक : 910 दिनांक : 06.06.2022
निविदा सूचना संख्या-06 /2022-23
राजस्थान के राज्यपाल महोदय की ओर से माननीय मुख्यमंत्री बजट घोषणा अन्तर्गत कोटा, बून्दी एवं बारा जिले में उच्चस्तरीय पुल का निर्माण कार्य मय पाँच साल की मरम्मत के लिए उपयुक्त श्रेणी में सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग राजस्थान में पंजीकृत संवेदकों एवं राज्य सरकार /केन्द्र सरकार के अधिकृत संगठनों /केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग / डाक एवम् दूर संचार विभाग /रेलवे इत्यादि में पंजीकृत संवेदकों, जो कि राजस्थान सरकार के एए श्रेणी के संवेदकों के समकक्ष हो, से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ई-प्रोक्यूरमेन्ट प्रक्रिया से ऑन लाईन निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। निविदा से सम्बन्धित विवरण वेब साईट http://dipr.rajasthan.gov.in व http://pwd.rajasthan.gov.in http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है। यू बी.एन संख्या निम्नानुसार है।
इच्छुक संवेदकों को अपने डिजिटल हस्ताक्षर के माध्यम से वेबसाईट http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर रजिस्टर्ड होना आवश्यक है।
UBN NO.
1. PWD2023WLOB02291
2. PWD2023WLOB02292
3. PWD2023WLOB02293
4. PWD2023WLOB02294
(जी.सी. मीणा)
अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता
DIPR/C/7900/2022 सा.नि.वि. सम्भाग कोटा

कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, संभाग प्रथम जोधपुर
क्रमांक:- 957 दिनांक:- 08.06.2022
निविदा सूचना संख्या: 9 वर्ष 2022-2023
NIB No. PWD2223A0671
राजस्थान के राज्यपाल महोदय की ओर से विभिन्न भवन निर्माण कार्यों हेतु उपयुक्त श्रेणी में सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग राजस्थान में पंजीकृत संवेदकों एवं राज्य सरकार/ केन्द्र सरकार के अधिकृत संगठनों/ केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग/ डाक एवम् दूर संचार विभाग/ रेलवे इत्यादि में पंजीकृत संवेदकों, जो कि राजस्थान सरकार के उपयुक्त श्रेणी के संवेदकों के समकक्ष हो, से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में कुल 02 कार्य जिनकी लागत राशि रू.949.00 लाख है के लिए इटेण्डरिंग प्रक्रिया हेतु ऑनलाईन निविदायें आमंत्रित की जाती है।

ऑनलाईन निविदा आवेदन डाउनलोड एवं अपलोड करने की तारीख	:	10 जून 2022, 9.30 बजे से 30 जून 2022, सायं 06.00 बजे तक

निविदा से सम्बन्धित विवरण वेबसाईट http://dipr.rajasthan.gov.in व http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in व http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है। सम्पूर्ण निविदा प्रक्रिया http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर ऑनलाईन सम्पादित की जायेगी। इच्छुक संवेदकों को अपने डिजिटल हस्ताक्षर के माध्यम से वेबसाईट पर http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर रजिस्टर्ड करवाना आवश्यक है।
कार्यभार यू.बी.एन संख्या निम्नानुसार है।
1. PWD2223WSOB02377 2. PWD2223WSOB02378
(देवीलाल आर्य)
अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता,
DIPR/C/8048/2022 सा.नि.वि. संभाग प्रथम, जोधपुर

No wild polio strain found, says official

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Not wild poliovirus but vaccine-derived poliovirus (VDPV) was detected in the environmental surveillance of sewage samples from Kolkata, a senior Health Ministry official said on Thursday. "The genetic sequencing is done at the ICMR-National Institute of Virology, Mumbai, and this was discussed with the World Health Organization (WHO). It can occur in any country where oral polio vaccine (OPV) is given," the official said.

The Ministry said that the last time such a VDPV was detected was in New Delhi in 2018.

State health officials detected the presence of VDPV from sewage in Kolkata earlier this week. A VDPV is a strain of the weakened poliovirus that was initially included in OPV and that has changed over time and behaves more like the wild or naturally occurring virus.

Officials from Kolkata added that sewage monitoring goes on throughout the country and this virus was found in a sample in Kolkata. "Most likely it has come from someone's gut who is immune deficient and has since multiplied. It is not a case of human-to-human polio transfer," said State health authorities.

According to the WHO, Poliomyelitis (polio) is a highly infectious viral disease that largely affects children under five years. The virus is transmitted person-to-person and spread mainly through the faecal-oral route or, less frequently, by a common vehicle (contaminated water or food) and multiplies in the intestine, from where it can invade the nervous system and cause paralysis. Of the three strains of wild poliovirus, type 2 and 3 strains have been globally eradicated. As on 2020, wild poliovirus type 1 affects two countries – Pakistan and Afghanistan, according to the WHO.

NTAGI recommends reducing booster dose gap to 6 months

Panel says not enough data for decision to begin vaccination of those below 12

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

The Standing Technical Sub-Committee (STSC) of the National Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (NTAGI) on Thursday recommended reducing the gap between the second and precaution doses of COVID-19 vaccines from the current nine months to six, official sources said.

The committee said the Health Ministry would take the final call on the recommendation soon.

The government advisory panel, which met on Thursday, reviewed the findings of a study by the Christian Medical College (CMC) in Vellore on the feasibility of allowing as precaution dose a COVID vaccine different from the one used for primary vaccination.

The panel members found a lack of uniformity in results upon mixing of jabs for booster shots, and stated that no recommendation for it can be made as of now. The CMC study was on Covishield and Covaxin.

Preventive measures: A file photo of a beneficiary getting a booster dose of COVID-19 vaccine in New Delhi. • R.V. MOORTHY

The threat of monkeypox and the requirement of vaccination were also discussed in the meeting of the panel of the NTAGI, the sources said.

"However, the members were of the view that a strong surveillance is what is required as of now. No case of monkeypox has been detected in the country till now," one of the sources said.

The panel also reviewed data on Covaxin and Corbevax vaccines for the six-12 age group.

"The members opined that data of COVID burden and mortality among children is not robust enough to take any decision to begin vaccination of those below 12 years," the source said.

India's drug regulator in April this year had granted emergency use authorisation for Biological E's COVID-19 vaccine Corbevax for those aged five to 12 and Bharat Biotech's Covaxin for children in the age group of six to 12.

The STSC members were learnt to have also agreed on the administration of an additional third dose for renal transplant patients before the precaution dose.

"In the meeting today, members also agreed on reducing the gap between the second and the precaution doses of COVID-19 vaccines from the current nine months to six months on the basis of scientific evidence and data," the source said.

Currently, all those above the age of 18 who have completed nine months after the administration of the second dose are eligible for the precaution dose.

Unemployment rate dips in first quarter of 2022: survey

Rate for urban areas decreased to 8.2% in the first quarter

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) has reported that the unemployment rate for urban areas has decreased to 8.2% in January-March 2022 from 8.7% in the previous quarter (October-December 2021) and 9.3% in the same quarter in 2021. The survey report, released here on Thursday, defines unemployment rate as the percentage of unemployed persons among the labour force.

On Tuesday, the National Statistics Organisation (NSO) released the survey results for 2020-21, which saw a decrease of 0.6 percentage points in unemployment rate that reached 4.2%, compared to 4.8% in 2019-20.

The quarterly survey results for January-March of this year said the unemployment rate among girls and women aged 15 and above in urban areas declined to 10.1% from 11.8% a year ago. It was 10.5% in the previous quarter. The opening up of workplaces after the lockdowns seems to have had an impact on the unemployment rate. The unemployment rate among men fell to to 7.7% compared with 8% in the corresponding quarter of the previous year and 8.3% in the previous quarter.

Bleak future: A file photo of a group of people sitting in a street in Delhi waiting for work. • GETTY IMAGES

The labour force participation rate in Current Weekly Status (CWS) in urban areas declined to 47.3% in the January-March quarter of 2022. It was 47.5% during January-March 2021 and 47.3% during October-December 2021. Labour force is defined as the part of the population which supplies or offers to supply labour for pursuing economic activities for the production of goods and services and, therefore, includes both employed and unemployed persons.

The worker population ratio in CWS in urban areas was 43.4% in January-March 2022, which showed an increase from 43.1% in January-March 2021 and 43.2% in October-December 2021.

People throng petrol pumps after rumours of shortage

J&K administration denies fuel shortage in Srinagar

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
SRINAGAR

An unprecedented rush was witnessed at petrol pumps across Srinagar on Thursday, following rumours of a shortage of fuel and a likely crisis in the coming days in the country.

Several petrol pumps were unable to cope with the rush. Long queues were observed in Srinagar since morning. "We had to inform the police about the unprecedented rush and seek security," said a petrol pump employee in the city.

The crowds forced the J&K administration to intervene and put the rumours to rest. "There is no shortage of fuel in Kashmir. There is no need to panic. People can refill at Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd.," Divisional Commissioner P.K. Pole said.

Patient wait: People standing in a long queue at a petrol station in Srinagar on Thursday. • NISSAR AHMAD

Hindustan Oil Corporation Ltd. would also have sufficient stock of petrol and diesel by Thursday evening. People must not pay heed to rumours, he added.

New LPG connections turn dearer

Security deposit for cylinder increased; customers need to set aside ₹850 more

N. RAVIKUMAR
HYDERABAD

New domestic liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) connections now cost an additional ₹850 with Indian Oil, Bharat Petroleum and Hindustan Petroleum increasing the one-time security deposit that households need to pay towards the cylinder and pressure regulator effective June 16.

The deposit has been increased from ₹1,450 to ₹2,200 for a 14.2-kg single cylinder connection, while for the pressure regulator, the increase is from ₹150 to ₹250. For customers in northeastern States, the rate has been revised to ₹2,000 (₹1,150) for the cylinder and ₹200 (₹100) for the pressure regulator.

On the rise | With LPG prices already high, new consumers have been burdened with an increase in deposits for connections

SECURITY DEPOSIT RATES (₹/ UNIT)

	Old		New	
	N. E. States	Rest of India	N. E. States	Rest of India
14.2 kg cylinder	1,150	1,450	2,000	2,200
5 kg cylinder	800	800	1,150	1,150
Pressure regulator	100	150	200	250

Households opting for double cylinder connections will have to pay an additional security deposit, of the same amount, towards the second cylinder. There is no change in the security deposit (borne by the oil companies) for Prime Minister's Ujjwala Yojana customers. However, if those customers opt for two cylinder, they need to pay the revised charges, according to an official communication on the new rates to LPG distributors.

The oil companies have also increased the security deposit for customers registering for 5-kg cylinder connection. Consequently, penal charges that households need to pay in the event of losing the equipment and the tariff applicable for damage have also been raised.

The increase in the security deposit, which was revised last in October 2012 and undertaken now in the wake of higher steel prices, is bound to raise hackles as it comes on the backdrop of a series of upward revision in the LPG price since December.

U.S. to fund 3 Indian research institutions

It announces $122 million to address challenges posed by infectious diseases

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
WASHINGTON

The United States has announced a funding of $122 million to top three Indian medical research institutions to prevent avoidable epidemics, enable early detection of disease threats and effect rapid and effective response.

The total funding of $122,475,000 will, over a period of five years, be distributed to the three top Indian health research institutions – Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), National Institute of Virology and National Institute of Epidemiology.

'One health' approach

Announced by the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on Wednesday, the fund will accelerate the progress towards an India, which is safe and secure from infectious disease threats, through ICMR institutions' focus on emerging and re-emerging pathogens, a media release said.

Prominent among these include detecting and controlling zoonotic disease outbreaks through a 'one health' approach; evaluating vaccine safety monitoring systems; capacitating the public health workforce in field epidemiology and outbreak response; and combating antimicrobial resistance.

The CDC said the ICMR is in a unique position to conduct this work as it was originally established as an apex body for the formulation, coordination and promotion of biomedical research in India, and has taken up most of the laboratory-based surveillance of infectious diseases in recent years.

Eligibility for funding beginning September 30, 2022 is limited to ICMR, and ICMR institutions, including the National Institute of Virology, Pune, and the National Institute of Epidemiology, Chennai.

Gurkhas hurt after 'non-Indian' snub

All-India Women Conference rejects the community's programme for 'Azadi' event

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
GUWAHATI

Gurkha organisations have slammed the All-India Women Conference (AIWC) for rejecting the community's programme for an "Azadi ka Amrut Mahotsav" event after labelling 'Nepali' a "non-Indian" language.

AIWC executive member Chandra Prabha Pandey on June 9 sent out a note seeking contributions from its regional chapters for the proposed "Azadi" celebrations. The requirement was patriotic songs and dances performed in regional languages.

But when artists from West Bengal's Kalimpong district sent in their contributions, Ms. Pandey allegedly told them that the AIWC could not showcase performances in "non-Indian languages".

The AIWC's Kalimpong secretary, Aruna Pradhan, tried to reason with Ms. Pandey but she insisted that the national anthem in "Nepali, not a language from India" was unacceptable. Ms. Pandey indicated that the Gurkhas were migrants and thus not eligible for performing at an event for Indians.

"By claiming that Nepali is not an Indian language, and not allowing performances in Nepali language, the AIWC has shown deliberate racism against the Gurkha community of our nation," Darjeeling MP Raju Bista said.

"Perhaps, the AIWC members are unaware that our Gurkha ancestors have played a vital role in ensuring India's Independence," he added.

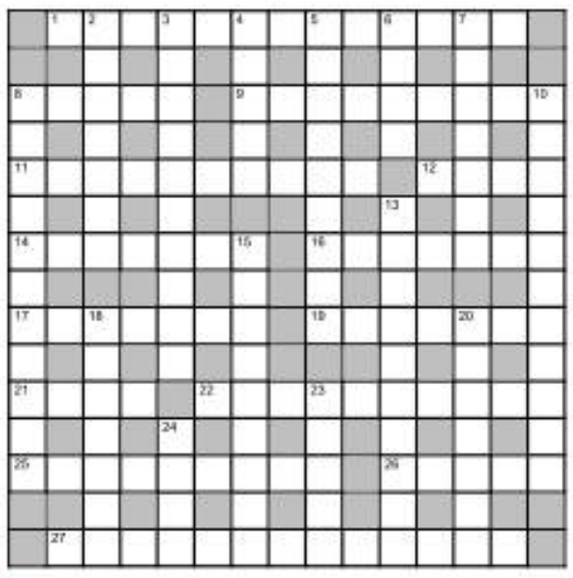
In a meeting of its core committee held virtually on June 15, the Bharatiya Gorkha Yuva Parisangh decided to take up the issue legally if Ms. Pandey did not apologise in the public domain within 24 hours of publication of its statement and in person in the next AIWC meeting.

TH CROSSWORD + 13585

(set by Dr. X)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN



ACROSS

1 Extreme-minded members in cult fearing changes (7,6)
8 Upright portion of step in stair is eroded (5)
9 Resents screening flop pictures (9)
11 Astonishing clamour is about arresting unionist (10)
12 Singing voice of hot lady in retreat (4)
14 Flammable oil in vessel turned hot so abruptly (7)
16 Hesitant about firing model rashly (2,5)
17 Unreliable faction seizes power after America withdraws (7)
19 Choose artist for Greek mythological character (7)
21 Glimpse of result breaks self-confidence consequently (4)
22 Royal prince banished outside felt inconsequential (10)
25 Passed across topless beach outside plot (9)
26 Son ignored dirty drunk (5)
27 Be strongly criticized, like soldiers in enemy territory might? (4,5,4)

DOWN

2 Release intoxicated nuts with reprimand (7)
3 Appalling acts of promiscuous actor with primarily illicit liaisons (10)
4 Image of fish on a line (5)
5 Remarkable virtue of a blue-eyed boy (9)
6 Lives over an island in Romanian city (4)
7 Chuckles, shaking leg during musical performances (7)
8 New short skirts to wear, suggestive (11)
10 High after consuming drug, woman completely refused to answer (11)
13 Mad party with couple of females after Derby say (7,3)
15 Relative wasting time, transfixed by fruit machine (9)
18 Small wild animal cut Jack near old giant cactus (7)
20 Loafer in Turkey carrying firearm (7)
23 Make confused director enter shady deal (5)
24 Key given by associate, lost in corridor (4)

SUDOKU

								2
	8			1	5			4
9	2	4	7			1		
	7		1	5	8	3		
				3				
		5	6	7	9		1	
		9			1	8	2	6
3			9	8			7	
1								

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

Solution to puzzle 13584

S	M	I	D	G	E	O	N		D	R	U	M	U	P
U		N		R		V		F		A		A		A
P	I	L	L	A	G	E		L	A	M	I	N	A	R
P		O		N		R	A		I		D		A	
L	I	V	I	D			T	A	B	L	E	L	A	N	D
Y		E		I		H		B				R		I
			R	O	T	E	L	E	A	R	N	I	N	G
H		S		S		C		R		O		N		M
I	N	T	H	E	L	O	N	G	R	U	N			
E		A				U		A		G		S		M
R	E	S	I	D	E	N	T	S		H	O	O	H	A
A		H		R		T		T		H		N		N
R	U	I	N	A	T	E		I	T	E	R	A	N	T
C		N		A		R		N		W		T		I
H	A	G	G	L	E		U	G	A	N	D	A	N	S

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

1	2	3	6	8	4	5	9	7
6	4	5	1	9	7	8	2	3
8	7	9	3	2	5	6	1	4
7	3	4	9	6	8	2	5	1
2	1	6	7	5	3	9	4	8
5	9	8	2	4	1	7	3	6
9	8	2	4	3	6	1	7	5
3	5	7	8	1	9	4	6	2
4	6	1	5	7	2	3	8	9

FAITH

Butter and pot symbolism

The real purpose of Lord Narayana's leelas is not to amuse us, but to symbolically present to us matters of deep philosophical importance. There is a message for us even in His butter thieving, said V.S. Karunakarachariar in a discourse. Why did Krishna steal butter? It was to indicate that since we are reluctant to surrender to Him totally, He will have to grab our attention and ensure that we surrender to Him. The butter thieving was like a sort of practice for Him, to later steal our hearts. But Krishna did not merely eat stolen butter, but He also broke the pots that had contained butter. What was the need for this? Here too, there is a symbolism. Just as the pots were the containers for the butter, so are our bodies the dwelling places for the atma. By breaking the pots, Krishna showed that once He had captured our hearts, He would break our connection to the body forever. In other words, there would be no more births for us.

This snatching of our hearts by the Lord is seen in the way He wed Rukmini. Rukmini had five brothers, goes the story. Why not any other number? The reason was that we have five indriyas, and they keep us from getting close to the Lord. If Rukmini is taken as representative of the jivatma, then it is her five brothers who keep this jivatma from reaching Lord Krishna – the Paramatma. Although Rukmini wants to marry Krishna, her five brothers make other plans for her. They choose Sisupala as her husband and want to keep Krishna away from her. That is precisely what our indriyas do. They take us down every path, except the right one, and keep us from thinking of the Lord. Hence they prevent us from being liberated. A willing Rukmini is abducted by Lord Krishna, showing the capturing of our hearts by the Lord, to liberate us.

MARKET WATCH

	16-06-2022	% CHANGE
Sensex	51,496	-1.99
US Dollar	78.10	0.15
Gold	50,602	0.59
Brent oil	119.51	-0.45

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Ports	681.70	-22.05
Apollo Hosp	3663.65	-59.05
Asian Paints	2657.45	-3.70
Axis Bank	634.90	-15.60
Bajaj Auto	3658.20	-39.90
Bajaj Finserv	11471.90	-337.60
Bajaj Finance	5283.90	-201.05
Bharti Airtel	654.20	-27.90
BPCL	311.65	-2.35
Britannia Ind	3390.40	5.00
Cipla	940.95	-27.85
Coal India	179.90	-10.15
Divis Lab	3564.90	-16.20
Dr Reddys Lab	4287.50	-48.00
Eicher Motors	2652.50	-67.60
Grasim Ind	1285.05	-46.65
HCL Tech	964.95	-24.95
HDFC	2056.50	-48.95
HDFC Bank	1281.30	-26.15
HDFC Life	570.55	-9.20
Hero MotoCorp	2519.05	-86.25
Hindalco	336.10	-21.40
Hind Unilever	2146.70	0.15
ICICI Bank	678.50	-8.75
Indusind Bank	809.60	-33.70
Infosys	1397.20	-25.00
ITC	260.70	-2.70
JSW Steel	545.85	-17.15
Kotak Bank	1675.80	-60.85
L&T	1527.40	-32.95
M&M	1005.25	-20.25
Maruti Suzuki	7833.60	-19.85
Nestle India Ltd.	16874.00	71.70
NTPC	142.95	-5.20
ONGC	143.55	-7.85
PowerGrid Corp	216.35	-5.90
Reliance Ind	2560.00	-36.30
SBI Life	1105.15	-20.60
State Bank	441.60	-9.75
Shree Cement	18711.85	-602.35
Sun Pharma	814.60	-7.70
Tata Consumer Products Ltd	724.95	-12.80
Tata Motors	392.95	-21.15
Tata Steel	901.70	-57.85
TCS	3142.00	-64.30
Tech Mahindra	975.30	-44.75
Titan	2060.95	-44.10
UltraTech Cement	5305.25	-148.90
UPL	683.65	-28.50
Wipro	422.30	-17.80

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on June 16

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	77.87	78.19
Euro	81.09	81.42
British Pound	94.17	94.56
Japanese Yen (100)	58.63	58.89
Chinese Yuan	11.59	11.64
Swiss Franc	79.50	79.84
Singapore Dollar	56.02	56.27
Canadian Dollar	60.22	60.47
Malaysian Ringgit	17.68	17.76
Australian Dollar	54.26	54.49

Source: Indian Bank

India better placed to avoid risk of stagflation: RBI officials

Domestic economic activity is gaining strength, write authors of Bulletin article

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

India's economy is better placed than many other countries to avoid the risk of potential stagflation, Reserve Bank of India officials headed by Deputy Governor Michael D. Patra wrote in an article in the June edition of the RBI Bulletin.

"Global economic conditions continued to deteriorate as ratcheting up of commodity prices and financial market volatility have led to heightened uncertainty," the officials wrote in 'State of the Economy'. "Forecasts of global growth and inflation by various agencies paint a grim picture and it is increasingly becoming clear that in advanced economies, the war against inflation would entail significant monetary tightening, complicating the growth-inflation outlook," they added.

Less at risk: War against inflation in advanced economies complicates the growth-inflation outlook, say officials. • AFP

"Emerging market economies grapple with the global trade slowdown, capital outflows and imported inflation. Some abatement of supply chain pressures and relaxation in lockdown measures by key industrial hubs have emerged as silver linings amidst the dark clouds looming over the global economy," they observed.

India's economy, however, was better placed to skirt a potential stagflation given that most constituents of GDP had surpassed pre-pandemic levels, domestic economic activity was gaining strength, and the CPI inflation print for May had recorded a decline after seven months of continuous rise.

"The recovery remained broadly on track. This demonstrates the resilience of the economy... and the innate strength of macro fundamentals," they wrote.

Sensex falls 2% after Fed raises rates; rupee recovers

'Equity markets sceptical about global growth'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

Benchmark equity indices in India slid 2% on Thursday following the U.S. Federal Reserve's move to raise the policy rate by 75 basis points to deal with high inflation.

The S&P BSE Sensex fell 1,045.6 points, or 1.99%, to a 52-week low of 51,495.79.

Stocks that declined the most include Tata Steel (6.04%), Tech Mahindra (4.37%), Bharti Airtel (4.11%), Wipro (4.04%) and IndusInd Bank (3.96%).

"Initially, the benchmark opened with an uptick, in reaction to the rate hike by the U.S. Fed, which came in line with the expectation," said Ajit Mishra, vice-president, Research, Religare Broking. "However, it couldn't sustain for long and gradually drifted lower as the day progressed," he added. "Markets are sceptical about how global economies would attain growth amid the aggressive tightening."

The NSE Nifty-50 index too plunged 331.55 points, or 2.11%, to 15,360.60.

Vinod Nair, head of Research, Geojit Financial Services, said: "Market is catching up to the reality that tight monetary policy is the lone card on the table [against] lingering high inflation. As a result, the global economy is bound to slow down further impacting corporate earnings, as indicated by the [month-on-month] fall in U.S. retail sales."

The rupee recovered from its record low to close 12 paise higher at 78.10 against the American currency on Thursday, tracking the overnight weakness of the dollar and helped by a fall in crude oil prices.

(With PTI inputs)

No choice but to raise airfares: SpiceJet CMD

'Centre, States must lower tax on ATF'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Airlines had 'no choice' but to raise fares given the rising prices of aviation turbine fuel (ATF), SpiceJet CMD Ajay Singh said after refiners yet again raised ATF prices.

"The sharp increase in jet fuel prices and the depreciation of the rupee have left domestic airlines with little choice but to immediately raise fares, and we believe that a minimum 10-15% increase in fares is required," Mr. Singh said in a statement on Thursday. He reiterated the industry's demand for a cut in central and State taxes on ATF as prices had risen 120% since June 2021.

Ajay Singh

Earlier, the price of ATF was raised by 16.3% to ₹1.41 lakh per kilo litre (kl) in the national capital. The price has been on a tear since January, when it was ₹72,062.

In March, IndiGo CEO Ronojoy Dutta had appealed for ATF to be brought under the GST regime as the firm was 'adversely impacted' by the consistent rise in price.

In February, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had said the issue would be put before the GST Council.

Reserve Bank lifts curbs on Mastercard

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Thursday said it had lifted business restrictions imposed on Mastercard Asia/Pacific Pte. Ltd following 'satisfactory compliance' with norms.

"In view of the satisfactory compliance demonstrated by Mastercard Asia / Pacific Pte. Ltd. with the Reserve Bank of India circular... on Storage of Payment System Data, the restrictions imposed on on-boarding of new domestic customers have been lifted with immediate effect," the RBI said.

RBI's curbs on the company related to customer additions (debit, credit or prepaid) onto its card network from July 22, 2021.

WTO said to extend e-com tariff freeze in provisional deal

Extension until next ministerial meeting, agreement shows

REUTERS
GENEVA

WTO members reached a provisional deal on Thursday to extend a moratorium on applying duties to electronic transmissions until the next ministerial meeting, likely to be in 2023, two trade sources involved in the discussions told Reuters.

The prospect of ending the moratorium, which has exempted data flows from cross-border tariffs since 1998, had raised major concerns among businesses. Backed by players like the U.S., the U.K. and the European Union, they argued that letting it expire would undermine a global recovery already threatened by spiralling prices. "We agree to maintain the current practice of not imposing customs duties on electronic transmissions until MC13 which should ordinarily be held by 31 December 2023," the agreement showed, referring to the next ministerial conference. It said the moratorium would expire in March 2024, should the next conference be postponed.

Members' nod needed

The provisional deal was reached in a negotiating room of the WTO's Geneva headquarters among a group of major members and still needs to be backed by the body's 164 members.

India, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Pakistan and South Africa had threatened to block an extension earlier in the five-day ministerial conference, where deals are also being sought on fishing, vaccines and food security. It was not immediately clear what might have made them change their minds.

Retail sales grow 24% over 2019 level: RAI

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Retail businesses across India grew 24% in May this year against the pre-pandemic level of the same month in 2019, according to industry body RAI.

As per the latest 'retail business survey' by the Retailers Association of India (RAI), sales in western India grew by 30% and eastern India by 29% compared to the pre-pandemic sales level in May 2019. Similarly, southern India posted a rise of 22% and northern India grew 16%.

RAI CEO Kumar Rajagopalan said, "It is encouraging to see a steady improvement in sales with 23% growth in April and 24% in May as compared to the pre-pandemic levels."

IN BRIEF

Sovereign gold bonds offer to open June 20

MUMBAI

The first tranche of Sovereign Gold Bond (SGB) for 2022-23 will open for subscription for five days from June 20, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) said. The RBI further said that the second tranche (2022-23 Series II) will be available for subscription during August 22-26. In 2021-22, SGBs were issued in 10 tranches for an aggregate amount of ₹12,991 crore (27 tonnes). PTI

Akasa Air takes delivery of its first plane

NEW DELHI

Akasa Air on Thursday took delivery of its first aircraft, a Boeing 737 MAX, in Seattle, U.S.A. The aircraft is expected to land in Delhi on June 21. This will pave the way for the airline conducting proving flights to obtain an air operator's permit from the DGCA, allowing it to commence commercial flights in the country. The airline is aiming to start flight operations next month.

'Contactless payments grew sixfold in 3 years'

BENGALURU

Contactless payments saw a sixfold growth in India in the last three years, as per a Visa and Worldline India whitepaper. The highest adoption of contactless payments, observed in sectors such as quick service restaurants, accelerated with the impact of the pandemic. While 25% of all transactions at supermarkets were contactless in January 2020, they rose to 31% by January 2022, the study showed.

RBI raises e-mandate limit to ₹15,000

MUMBAI

The Reserve Bank of India raised the Additional Factor of Authentication (AFA) limit from ₹5,000 to ₹15,000 per transaction for e-mandates on cards, prepaid payment instruments and UPI. It implies that AFA would not be needed for payment of a ₹15,000 transaction. Under the e-mandate, an individual can give standing instructions to the bank to debit a specific amount automatically on a recurring basis. PTI

RBI extends Equitas SFB MD's tenure

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved a proposal of Equitas Small Finance Bank (SFB) to reappoint P.N. Vasudevan as MD and CEO for a period of one year from July 23.

In a regulatory filing, the bank said it had received RBI's approval for the reappointment.

On May 19, Mr. Vasudevan had informed of his desire to step down from the post as he wanted to work for his trust and urged the board to look for a successor. He also came forward to help the search committee in identifying a successor to take the bank to next phase of growth.

On Thursday, shares of the small finance bank dropped 0.26% to close at ₹38.50 on the BSE.

Govt. eyes monsoon coal buffer stock of 40 mt

Current reserves stand at 23 mt: Singh

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

The Centre is gearing up to raise the stock of coal at power plants to 40 million tonne (mt) during the monsoon season, Union Power Minister R.K. Singh said.

Speaking to PTI, the Minister said right now, there are reserves of about 22.9 mt at the power plants.

"On April 1, our reserve stock at power plants was at 24 mt. On April 30, it came down to 19 mt and on May 15, it came down to 15 mt.

"However, because of (coal) imports, it has gone up to about 22.9 mt again," the Minister said.

Asked if the government is planning to raise the buffer stock anticipating production and supply issues during the rainy season, he replied in affirmative.

"This happens every year during the rainy season. The domestic coal production falls. So, we are preparing for that. During the monsoon July-September, daily demand will come down to 2.1 mt because the temperature will drop.

"But, at the same time, domestic coal supply will also come down. That's why this import is happening. I believe the buffer should be at least in the range of 40 mt," the Minister said.

Continue to see strong demand: Hyundai's Garg

Mid-sized SUV Venue gets a facelift

YUTHIKA BHARGAVA
NEW DELHI

South Korean automaker Hyundai said it was 'confident' of maintaining its position as the second-biggest carmaker in India amid intensifying competition in the domestic passenger vehicle market.

'Continuous' strong demand for its products and the expected resilience of the Indian economy would fuel its prospects, said Tarun Garg, director-Sales, Marketing & Service at Hyundai Motor India.

Tarun Garg

Hyundai Motor India, with an order backlog of more than 1.2 lakh cars, would continue to 'excite the market with products' even as the market faced uncertainty due to geopolitical challenges, increasing fuel prices and rising interest rates, he said. The firm on Thursday unveiled a facelift for its mid-size SUV Venue with prices starting at ₹7.53 lakh (ex-showroom). The automaker said it had received 15,000 pre-bookings for the car, and had pending orders for about 25,000 units for the previous Venue.

The car will compete with the likes of Maruti Suzuki's Brezza, Tata Motors' Nexon and Kia's Sonet.

'Small farms to be e-tractors' early adopters'

MINI TEJASWI
BENGALURU

The country's small farm sector – with holdings up to five acres – will be the early adopters of electric tractors and handheld farm equipment, according to Antony Cherukara, CEO, VST Tillers Tractors.

"The country has slowly started witnessing electrification in the small farm sector and the segment is expected to adopt a lot of electric machines in the near future," said Mr. Cherukara in an interview.

To cash in on the changing requirements of the farm sector, the farm equipment maker said it would introduce electric tractors, power tillers and brush cutters in the domestic and export markets in the next one or two years.

IN THE COURT OF HON'BLE XXVI ADDL. CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE, AT BANGALORE (MAYO HALL UNIT)
O.S. NO: 26508/2019

BETWEEN: Centre for Research Education Services and Training (CREST) A Registered Trust under the Indian Trust Act, 1882 Address: 3rd D Cross, Kasturinagar Bangalore 560043, Represented by its authorized trustee Mrs. Rhoda Rodrigues (Earlier known as Rhoda Mario Mascarenhas) D/o Late Alfred Mascarenhas Aged about 56 years ...PLAINTIFF
AND: Smt Sharadamma w/o Sri. B.N.K. Reddy 176, Gandhi Street St Thomas Town, Kammanahalli Extension Bangalore 560084 and **4 Others.** ...DEFENDANTS

NOTICE / SUMMONS

Defendant No. 3 Mrs. Mary Paulina, Aged about 68 years W/o Late Bhagya Raj 127 38th B Cross, 9th Block Jayanagar Bangalore-560069.

Whereas, the Plaintiff has instituted the abovementioned suit against you for *inter alia* declaring the Sale deed dated 26.02.2019 registered as Document No. BNS I-19604/2018-2019 CD No. BNSD 712 in the office of Sub Registrar Banaswadi in respect of Schedule B property and Sale deed dated 26.02.2019 registered as Document No. BNS I-19605/2018-2019 CD No. BNSD 712 in the office of Sub Registrar Banaswadi in respect of Schedule C property as null and void and not binding on the Plaintiff Trust and such other relief(s) as this Hon'ble Court may deem fit in the interest of justice and equity. You have been arraigned as Defendant No. 3 in the above captioned suit.

Take notice / summons that you are hereby called upon to appear before this Hon'ble Court in person or through Advocate on **19th July 2022 at 11.00 am** to contest in the above suit, failing which the matter will be heard and determined ex-parte.

SCHEDULE A PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of Land with residential Building bearing Site No. 6,21,22 in portion of House List Khata No. 165/2 Horamavu Village, K.R. Puram Hobli Bangalore South Taluk, now comes under jurisdiction of the BBMP Ward No. 25 Horamavu also presently known as Site No. 22, 21, 6 Esther Layout Bangalore (Khata 165/2) Measuring **(Site No. 22).** East to West: 32 Feet, North to South: 44 Feet, Totally Measuring 1408 Sq Feet. Bounded on the: **North by :** Road, **South by :** Site No. 5; **East by :** Site No. 21, **West by :** Vendor's Remaining Property

Measuring (Site No. 21 and 6)
East to West: 32 Feet, North to South: 88 Feet
Site Area 2816 Square Feet
Total area of site 22,21,6 Sq Feet measuring 4224 Square feet together with Shed Constructed with compound wall on all 4 sides with a gate and BESCOM Electricity Connection.
Bounded on the: **East by :** Site No. 20 and 7
West by : Site No. 5 and 22
North by : Road, **South by :** Road

SCHEDULE B PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of Land bearing Site No. 21 and 22 Old House List Khata 165/2, Situated at Horamavu Village, K.R. Puram Hobli Bangalore South Taluk, now comes East Taluk which is presently under jurisdiction of BBMP in Ward No. 25, Measuring East to West: 64 Feet, North to South 44 Feet, Totally measuring 2816 Feet.
Bounded on the: **East by :** Site No. 20, **West by :** Vendor's Remaining Property **North by :** Road **South by :** Site No. 5 and 6

SCHEDULE C PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of Land bearing Site No. 6 Old House List Khata 165/2, Situated at Horamavu Village, K.R. Puram Hobli Bangalore South Taluk, now comes East Taluk which is presently under jurisdiction of BBMP in Ward No. 25, Measuring East to West: 32 Feet, North to South 44 Feet Totally site measuring 1408 Square Feet Bounded on the: **East by :** Site No. 7; **West by :** Site No. 5; **North by :** Site No. 21, **South by :** Road

Given under my hand and the seal of the Court, on 26.05.2022.

By the Order of the Court, Deputy Registrar City Civil Court (Mayo Hall Unit), Bangalore

M/s Ashira Law
Advocates and Solicitors
D6, Dona Cynthia, 35 Primrose Road, Bangalore-560052.

PUBLIC NOTICE

My clients **B.K SURYA KUMARI,** proposes to purchase the below mentioned immovable property which is more fully described in the Schedule here under, from its lawful owners and **1) Mrs. RAMYA VENKATESH,** D/o H. N. Gopalakrishna Setty, Wife of Mr. B.S. Venkatesh, and **2) Ms. TRISHA VENKATESH,** Daughter of Mrs. Ramya Venkatesh, both Residing at No.430, 6th Main, Amarjyothi Layout, West Wing, Domlur, Bengaluru-560 071. The owners have represented that they are the sole and absolute owners of the Schedule Property, having a clear and marketable title and unrestricted rights of alienation over the same. The owner has further represented that the Schedule property is free from all kinds of encumbrances, charges, liens, mortgages, litigations, and/or any third party rights/ claims of any nature whatsoever.

Notice is hereby given to the general public that all persons including individuals, Banks, Financial Institutions, Creditors etc.,having or asserting any benefits, objections, demands, claims, share, right, title and/or claims with the undersigned along with supporting documentary evidence within **(7) SEVEN days** from the date of this publication, and objections and/or claims received there after will not be binding on my clients, and my clients will proceed to purchase the Schedule Property as if there are no claimants/ objections.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ALL THAT PART AND PARCEL OF THE IMMOVABLE RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY bearing Municipal No.2301, situated in HAL III Stage, BBMP Ward No.73-Airport, New Ward No.113-Konena Agrahara, Bangalore, **PID No.73-217-2301, and registered with E-Aasthi Vide reference No.1629107 dated 21/05/2022,** Bangalore, and being bounded on the East by Site No.2290, West by Road, North by Site No.2300; and South by Site No.2302 and measuring East to West 12.20 meters or 40 Feet; and North to South 9.15 Meters or 30 Feet, together with all the buildings and structures now standing thereon and consisting of a Ground Floor, First Floor and a Second Floor now standing thereon

Place : Bengaluru.
Date : 16-06-2022

Sd/-
RAMESH D SHAH,
Advocate
No.1, 1st Floor, 4th Cross, Meenakshi Koil Street Cross, Shivajinagar, Bengaluru-51.
Mob: 98453 28016, 94495 09430.
E-mail : rame3003@gmail.com

KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
CIN: U85110KA1970SGC001919

ABSTRACT BID NOTIFICATION
(Two Cover System - Only through e-procurement portal)

No. KPCL/2022-23/IND 5963 Date: 10-06-2022

Bids in two parts through GOK e-procurement portal **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** are invited for **" Procurement of 750MT Liquid Sodium Hypochlorite for Pre-Treatment plant required for BTPS & YTPS for a period of 1 year in staggered manner to respective projects as per the quantity schedule "** The details of NIT & brief bid notification can be viewed on **KPCL website:** https://kpcl.karnataka.gov.in and GOK e-procurement portal. Further details can be had from: **The Chief Engineer (Thermal Designs), KPCL, No.3, 2nd Floor, Green building, (Drugs Control dept., premises), Palace Road, Bengaluru 560001.** Mobile:9449596598 e-mail: cetdkpcl@karnataka.gov.in / eern2.cetdkpcl@karnataka.gov.in

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರ್, ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರು ಮತ್ತು ನೈರ್ಮಲ್ಯ ಉಪವಿಭಾಗ
ವಿಭಾಗ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಹುಬ್ಬಾಡ–ಕಾರವಾರ, ಉತ್ತರ ಕನ್ನಡ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ –581 301.
ದೂರವಾಣಿ: 08382–228935, ಫ್ಯಾಕ್ಸ್: 229735 e-mail: eerdwsd.uk@gmail.com
ನಂ: ಕಾರ್ಯಾ/ಗ್ರಾಕುನೀಸ್ಯೆವಿ/ಕಾರವಾರ/ಟೆಂ–1/ಟೆಂದರ/JJM/2022–23/685 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 15.06.2022

ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರ ಪರವಾಗಿ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು, ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರು ಮತ್ತು ನೈರ್ಮಲ್ಯ ವಿಭಾಗ ಕಾರವಾರ ಇವರಿಂದ ಜಂಜೀವನ್ ಜಲ್ ಜೀವನ್ ಮಿಷನ್/ಜಲ ಜೀವನ ಮಿಷನ್ ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿ ಸೊಂದಾಯಿಸಲ್ಪಟ್ಟ ಆಪ್ ಹಾಗೂ ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯಿಂದ ನೊಂದಾಯಿಸಲ್ಪಟ್ಟ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರು ಸರಬರಾಜು ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿ ಮಂಜೂರಾದ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ವಿಭಾಗ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ ಕಾಯ್ದೆಯ ಹಾಗೂ ನಿಯಮಾವಳಿ 2000 ಹಾಗೂ Standard Tender Document KW-4 ರಂತೆ ಪತ್ಯೆಯಿಂದ ಕಾಲಾವಧಿಗೆ ಸೊದಿಸಲಾದ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ ಆದೇಶಗಳನ್ವಯ ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗೆ ಒಳಪಟ್ಟು ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನಂತೆ ಬಹುಮಾದು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಕರೆಯಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಆಪ್ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಇ–ಆಡಳಿತ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಅಥವಾ ಮೆಸ್ಸರ್ಸ್ www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in ರವರ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಯಂತೆ, ಟೆಂಡರ್ ವಿವರಗಳು ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನಂತಿವೆ.

ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ಹೆಸರು : (1) INDENT 40381

(1) Downloading of document through e-proc portal: 16.06.2022 to 30.06.2022 up to 16.30 Hrs. (2) Time & date of Pre-Bid Conference: 21.06.2022 Time: 11.30 Hrs.Venue: O/o. Executive Engineer, Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Division, Po: Habbuwada, Karwar- Uttara Kannada Dist. (3) Last Date & Time for Receipt of Bids: **30.06.2022** Time : 16.30 Hrs. (4)Date & Time of Technical Bid Opening: **01.07.2022** Time : 17:00 Hrs. (5) Date & Time of Financial Bid Opening: Will be informed technically qualified bidders after approval of Technical Bid.

ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರರು

DIPR/ADK/MCA/EO/22-23 dt: 15.06.2022 ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರು ಮತ್ತು ನೈರ್ಮಲ್ಯ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಕಾರವಾರ (ಉ.ಕ.ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ)

GULBARGA ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprise)
Corporate Office, GESCOM, Kalaburagi, Pin Code.585 102.
Phone No: 08472 256881 E-mail: seeprojectsgescom@gmail.com

No.GESCOM/CEE(O)/SEE(Proj)/EEE/AEE/2022-23/13847-874 Date: 14-06-2022

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

(Through e-procurement Mode only)

Gulbarga Electricity Supply Company Limited, Kalaburagi invites tender on Total Turnkey Basis from eligible bidders through e-procurement portal for Design, Manufacture, Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Solar RTPV Grid connected power plants on roof top of Govt. School Buildings in GESCOM Jurisdiction including operation and maintenance for a period of TEN years in **Ballari Zone** which covers Ballari, Raichur, Koppal & Vijayanagar Districts.

1) Tender Enquiry No. : **No.GESCOM/CEE(O)/SEE(Proj)/EEE/AEE/2022-23/65**
2) Name of Company : GESCOM

The bid documents will be available in http:/eproc.karnataka.gov.in on or after 20.06.2022 the prospective bidders can obtain further details from the office of the undersigned.

Sd/- Chief Engineer Electy., (Operations),
Corporate Office, GESCOM, Kalaburagi.

DIPR/Kalaburagi/266/MC&A/2022-23

Leaders pledge EU path for Ukraine

French President Macron also promises Kyiv six more powerful truck-mounted artillery guns

ASSOCIATED PRESS
KYIV

The leaders of four European Union nations visited Ukraine on Thursday, vowing to back Kyiv's bid to become an official candidate to join the bloc in a high-profile show of support for the country fending off a Russian invasion.

French President Emmanuel Macron also promised Ukraine six more powerful truck-mounted artillery guns, the latest in a new round of Western arms pledges for Ukraine as the war grinds on in the eastern Donbas region.

The leaders "are doing everything so that Ukraine alone can decide its fate", Mr. Macron said at a news conference.

In the face of Kyiv's fears that Western resolve to help it could wane, the visit by Mr. Macron, Germany's Chancellor Olaf Scholz and Italian premier Mario Draghi carried heavy symbolic weight. The three Western European powers have faced criticism for continuing to engage with Russian President Vladimir Putin – and failing to provide Ukraine with the scale of weaponry that it has said is necessary to fend off the Russians. Romania's President Klaus Iohannis also made the journey.

Show of support: Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelensky with French President Emmanuel Macron in Kyiv on Thursday. • AFP

After arriving in Kyiv to the sound of air raid sirens, the leaders headed to Irpin, a suburb of the capital that was the scene of intense fighting early in the war and where many civilians were killed. They decried the destruction there.

'Don't forget'

While visiting Irpin, Mr. Scholz observed that officials must keep the horrible scenes destruction in mind in all their decisions.

"Innocent civilians have been hit, houses have been destroyed; a whole town has been destroyed in which there was no military infrastructure at all," Mr. Scholz said. "And that says a great deal about the brutality of the Russian war of aggression, which is simply out for destruction and conquest. We must bear that in mind in everything that we decide."

'Will rebuild everything'

Mr. Draghi said during the tour of Irpin that Ukraine's backers will rebuild "everything" with European help. "They destroyed the nurseries, the playgrounds, and everything will be rebuilt," he said.

U.S. announces $1 bn more in arms for Ukraine

LYSYCHANSK

U.S. President Joe Biden announced $1 billion worth of new arms for Ukraine on Wednesday. The newest U.S. arms package features 18 more 155mm howitzers and 36,000 rounds of ammunition for them; two land-based Harpoon anti-ship missile systems; and additional rockets for four Himars precision rocket artillery systems that Ukraine is soon to put in the field. AFP

U.K. sanctions Russian Orthodox Church head

LONDON

Britain announced a new round of sanctions on Thursday against Russia, targeting the head of the Russian Orthodox Church, Patriarch Kirill, for his prominent support for the war in Ukraine as well as Russia's children's rights commissioner, Maria Lvova-Belova, who Britain said is responsible for the forced transfer and adoption of hundreds of Ukrainian children into Russia. AP

U.S. playing a 'long game' in ties with India: Sullivan

Not forcing India's hand on Russia sanctions, says NSA

SRIRAM LAKSHMAN
WASHINGTON

The U.S. is playing a "long game" in the context of its relationship with India and not trying to coerce India into joining its sanctions against Moscow, U.S. National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan has said.

Mr. Sullivan made the remarks on Thursday at the Center for a New American Security, a Washington-based think tank. He was responding to a question on whether India's abstentions during the United Nations votes that were critical of Russia and New Delhi's non-participation in the U.S. sanctions on Russian energy were hindering the bilateral relationship or simply a difference of opinion that could be easily managed.

The U.S., as per Mr. Sullivan, was being "direct" with India about its perspective on the Russia situation and how it "would encourage" India, in time, to change its own perspective, adding that it was up to India to make its own decisions.

'Strategic dialogue'

The U.S. imposed sanctions on Russian entities following the county's invasion of Ukraine in February. India has not signed up to these sanctions nor voted along with the vast majority of countries at the UN, in votes that censured Russia.

"But they're a sovereign, democratic nation, they will make their own decisions and we're not here to lecture them or to insist on a certain outcome or else," Mr. Sullivan said about India.

"We're having, I would say, a deep, respectful, and strategic dialogue with India, starting with the President and the Prime Minister, who have spoken frequently by phone and just met a couple of weeks ago in Tokyo, and we're playing the long game here," he added.

No pressure: U.S. National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan said it was up to India to make its own decisions. • REUTERS

Earlier stance

Mr. Sullivan's remarks appeared at odds with earlier reactions from the Biden administration to news of India buying discounted oil from Moscow.

Countries "should" abide by the U.S. sanctions on Russia, former White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki had said in early April. This was days after Deputy National Security Adviser Daleep Singh said in New Delhi that there would be "consequences" for countries "that actively attempt to circumvent or backfill the sanctions".

The U.S. sanctions have a carve-out for energy payments. This week, the U.S. treasury extended the carve-out past its initial expiry date of June 24, to December 5, when the European Union's ban on Russian oil imports kicks in.

On Thursday, Mr Sullivan delivered a different public message on the U.S. approach, one that contrasted with the messaging in March and April. The U.S was "investing" in the relationship with India, he said, and not going to judge it by one issue, even if that issue was "consequential".

"Rather that we're going to judge over the fullness of time, as we try to work to convergence on the major strategic questions facing our two countries."

'Better outcomes'

Mr. Sullivan said that on one of the strategic questions, China, the U.S. and India had much more convergence but on the question of Russia, "obviously" the two countries had different historical perspectives and "different muscle memories".

"But we feel confident that the dialogue we have going with India right now will bear fruit over time, in a way that is not about forcing them to change or demanding things of them, but rather is the kind of iterative approach in a strategic relationship that, tended well, will lead to better outcomes."

Indian-American picked for top Pentagon post

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
WASHINGTON

U.S. President Joe Biden has nominated security expert Radha Iyengar Plumb to the post of Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment, the latest Indian-American to be named for a key position.

Currently serving as the Chief of Staff to the Deputy Secretary of Defense, Ms. Plumb was nominated for the top Pentagon position on Wednesday. Prior to her appointment as Chief of Staff, Ms. Plumb was the Director of Research and Insights for Trust and Safety at Google, leading their cross-functional teams on business analytics, data science and technical research.

Radha Iyengar Plumb • TWITTER

She has also previously served as the Global Head of Policy Analysis at Facebook, where she focused on high-risk/high-harm safety and critical international security issues.

Protest against Adani project in Colombo

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
COLOMBO

A demonstration was held in the Sri Lankan capital on Thursday against the proposed windmill project to be undertaken by the Adani group in the northeastern region of Mannar.

The protesters from the Gotagogama (President Gotabaya go home), a protest site, gathered at the busy Bambalapitiya sector south of Colombo. They held placards questioning the lack of transparency in the awarding of the project to the Adani Group while shouting slogans against the Indian business conglomerate.

U.S.-led troops capture top IS operative in Syria

Bomb-maker seized from rebel territory

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
BEIRUT

U.S. coalition forces said they captured a senior Islamic State group bomb-maker in a pre-dawn raid on Thursday that, witnesses said, saw troops in helicopters swoop down on an isolated house in rebel-held northwestern Syria.

A war monitor said two military helicopters touched down for only a few minutes, and several shots were fired, in a village in an area controlled by Turkish-backed rebel groups.

"The captured individual is an experienced bomb-maker and operational facilitator who became one of the top leaders of Daesh's Syrian branch," said the U.S.-led coalition battling the jihadist group in Syria and Iraq, using another name for IS.

The coalition did not name the target in the statement, but a coalition official told AFP the man captured was Hani Ahmed Al-Kurdi, who was the IS leader of Raqa when it was the de facto capital of IS in Syria.

Such operations by U.S. forces are rare in parts of northwestern Syria that are under the control of Turkish-backed rebels and non-IS jihadist groups.

SPORT

Prannoy storms into the quarterfinals

Sameer and Ashwini-Sikki pair loses in second round

INDONESIA OPEN

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
JAKARTA

One of the heroes of India's epic Thomas Cup triumph, H.S. Prannoy stormed into the quarterfinals of the Indonesia Open Super 1000 tournament with a straight-game win over Hong Kong's Ng Ka Long Angus here on Thursday.

The 29-year-old from Kerala, who is looking to break his five-year title drought, dished out another impressive performance to outwit Ng Long 21-11, 21-18 in a second-round match that lasted 41 minutes.

Fourth win

It was Prannoy's fourth win over the 27-year-old, who is currently ranked 12th in the world.

Totally committed: Prannoy showed on Thursday he's willing to stretch every sinew to break a five-year title drought. • BADMINTONPHOTO/COURTESY OF BWF

Among other Indians, Sameer Verma ended his campaign with a 10-21, 13-21 loss to World No. 5 Lee Zii Jia of Malaysia.

This was Sameer's fifth loss to Lee in seven meetings.

Ashwini Ponnappa and N. Sikki Reddy also bowed out, losing 16-21, 13-21 to top seeds Chen Qing Chen and Jia Yi Fan of China.

The men's doubles pairing of M.R. Arjun and Dhruv Kapila, meanwhile, went down 19-21, 15-21 to China's Liu Yu Chen and Ou Xuan Yi.

A small-town athlete who has made big strides

Manu, who hails from Hassan, wants to win gold at the Olympic Games

ATHLETICS

M. RUPA RASAGNA
CHENNAI

Inspired by Neeraj Chopra's golden performance at the Tokyo Olympics, D.P. Manu, from the Hassan district of Karnataka, threw the javelin to a distance of 84.35m at the 61st National inter-State athletics championship here. Manu's personal best also booked him a ticket to the Birmingham Commonwealth Games next month.

Manu and Rohit Yadav were involved in a close race for the top spot, the latter producing four 80-plus throws, including a remarkable 82.54m. However, Manu's persistence paid off.

As a 17-year-old, Manu's interest was more towards volleyball before his Physical Education teacher pushed him to take up javelin. Five years on, the Karnataka athlete has made rapid strides, and turned heads with his performances.

The stint at Army Institute was a blessing for me as I learnt the nuances of the sport

Rigorous training

Through rigorous training, his hand speed increased; so did his distance in a span of three years. "I was able to consistently increase the distance, from 45m to 55m and eventually to 65m," said Manu.

At the Khelo India Games in Pune, he finished on top of the podium with a throw of 67m. This caught the eye of coach Kashinath Naik, who saw Manu's potential and convinced his seniors to train him at the Army Sports Institute in Pune. Naik would have been a proud man when Manu touched 84.35 in Chennai.

"The stint at Army Institute was a blessing for me as I learnt the nuances of the sport. It made a better athlete and also helped me financially," said Manu.

The unwavering support from his parents and coach has been a big influence in Manu's journey. He hardly takes breaks, constantly striving to perform better. "I allow myself only five or six holidays a year as I feel I need to be on top of my sport," revealed Manu.

"I also want to win an Olympic gold. My immediate goal is the Commonwealth Games," he said.

Manu. • B. VELANKANNI RAJ

LIVE TELECAST

NBA: Sports 18-1, Voot Select, MTV, Vh1 & Jio TV, 6.30 a.m.
Ranji Trophy: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 9.30 a.m.
Badminton: Indonesia Open, Sports 18-1 & Voot Select, 10.30 a.m.
India vs South Africa: 4th T20I, Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 7 p.m.
West Indies vs Bangladesh: 1st Test, day 2, FanCode, 7.30 p.m.

IN BRIEF

Pranavi, Ridhima in lead

BENGALURU

Pranavi Urs and Ridhima Dilawari shared the lead in the eighth leg of the Hero Women's Pro Golf Tour on Thursday.

The scores (top four): 143: Pranavi Urs (74, 69), Ridhima Dilawari (69, 74); **146:** Afshan Fatima (73, 73); **147:** Seher Atwal (76, 71), Jahanvi Bakshi (73, 74), Trimann Saluja (72, 75).

Indian boys take on Pakistan in summit clash

TENNIS

SPORTS BUREAU
NEW DELHI

Indian boys defeated Sri Lanka 3-0 in the semifinals to set up a title clash with top seed Pakistan in the ITF South Asia under-12 tennis championship in Kathmandu on Thursday.

The results: Boys (semifinals): India bt Sri Lanka 3-0 (Tavish Pahwa bt Minhas Muthuthanthri 6-1, 6-1; Fazal Ali Meer bt Bomullage Somaratna 6-4, 6-1; Kushagra Arora & Tavish bt Gracen Mayooran & Bomullage) 6-0,6-0).

Pakistan bt Bangladesh 3-0 (Muhammad Rizwan bt Md. Rajib 6-2, 6-0; Abubakar Talha bt Kabbo Gayen 6-1, 6-0; Omar Jawad & Abubakar bt Mushfiqur Aron & Md. Rajib 6-1, 6-1).

Girls (league): India bt Bangladesh 3-0 (Anandita Upadhyay bt Humayrah Zara 6-0, 6-0; Prachi Malik bt Sara Jasim 6-0, 6-1; Aahan & Prachi bt Sara & Humayrah 6-0, 6-0).

Junior National table tennis from today

Jennifer Varghese would be the star attraction

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
ALAPPUZHA

Reigning champion Diya Chitale Parag (youth) and Swastika Ghosh (junior) will not be defending their titles when the 83rd junior and youth National table tennis championships gets underway at the YMCA TT Arena here on Friday.

In the absence of these two, Jennifer Varghese, who recently won the under-15 title in the WTT Youth Contender event in Havirov will be the star attraction.

Jennifer, who will be competing in the under-17 category, could face a tough challenge from top-ranked Suhana Saini, Kavyasree Bhaskar, Laksishita Narang and Riddhima Kapoor.

Suhana, the highest-ranked player in the u-19 category, will have to contend with the likes of Yashwini Ghorphade, Nithyasree Mani and Pritha Vartikar.

The top eight-ranked players in each category will get a direct entry into the main draw, while the rest are divided into groups and the winner of each group will qualify for the main draw.

The Table Tennis Association of Kerala (TTAK), which is organising the tournament, has decided to award equal prize money to winners in the girls' category. The total prize money is ₹6.06 lakh. The tournament has attracted entries from 500 players and the girls' events will be held first.

Sania-Hradecka duo makes last four

Bopanna-Shapovalov pair enters semifinals at Queen's Club

INDIANS ABROAD

SPORTS BUREAU

Sania Mirza and Lucie Hradecka sailed past British wild cards Harriet Dart and Sarah Beth Greay 6-3, 6-2 in the quarterfinals of the $251,750 Birmingham Classic on Thursday.

In the Queen's Club Championships, Rohan Bopanna and Denis Shapovalov had reached the doubles semifinals late on Wednesday evening.

The results:

€2,275,275 Queen's Club Championships, London: Quarterfinals: Denis Shapovalov (Can) & Rohan Bopanna bt Juan Sebastian Cabal & Robert Farah (Col) 6-3, 6-4.

$251,750 Birmingham Classic, Birmingham: Quarterfinals: Lucie Hradecka (Cze) & Sania Mirza bt Harriet Dart & Sarah Beth Grey (GBr) 6-3, 6-2.

€45,730 Challenger, Blois, France: Quarterfinals: Sriram Balaji & Jeevan Nedunchezhiyan bt Grigoriy Lomakin 9Kaz) & Vladyslav Manafov (Ukr) 6-7 (3), 6-4, [10-5].

First round: Luis David Martinez (Ven) & Saketh Myneni bt Andrea Collarini & Facundo Diaz Acosta (Arg) 6-1, 6-3.

$15,000 ITF men, Chiang Rai, Thailand: First round: Sun Fajing (Chn) bt Manish Sureshkumar 6-3, 2-6, 6-3; Lee Duckhee (Kor) bt S.D. Prajwal Dev 6-1, 7-5.

$15,000 ITF men, Tay Ninh, Vietnam: Second round: Digvijay Pratap Singh bt Dominik Palan (Cze) 7-6(2), 6-4; Takuya Kumasaka (Jpn) bt Ishaque Eqbal 7-6, 3-0 (retd).

Doubles: Quarterfinals: Rishi Reddy & Dhakshineswar Suresh bt Madhwin Kamath & Digvijay Pratap Singh 3-3 (retired).

$15,000 ITF men, San Diego, USA: First round: Keegan Smith & Ivan Thamma (US) bt Benjamin Sigouin (Can) & Siddhant Banthia 3-6, 6-0, [10-5]; Mithell Harper (Aus) & Joe Tyler (GBR) bt Michael Shabaz (US) & Sathi Reddy Chirala 6-2, 6-0.

Women: Alyssa Ahn & Emily Deming (USA) bt Ayanna Shah (USA) & Amani Shah 6-7(6), 6-2, [10-5].

$25,000 ITF women, Santo Domingo, Dominican Rep.: First round: Gergana Topalova (Bul) bt Sharmada Balu 6-2, 6-1.

Doubles: First round: Yuliana Monroy (Col) & Ho Ching Wu (Hkg) bt Sharmada Balu & Sravya Shivani 3-6, 6-2, [10-6].

Confident India will look to force the series into the decider

Arshdeep or Umran may get a look-in; de Kock's fitness still in the balance, but South Africa will be determined to seal it

SA IN INDIA

S. DIPAK RAGAV
RAJKOT

After producing a clinical performance in the do-or-die game at Visakhapatnam, India will look to build on the momentum to try and level the series against South Africa in the fourth T20I at the Saurashtra Cricket Association Stadium here on Friday.

The home team will take a lot of heart from the fact that its bowlers stepped up to the challenge in the previous match with leg-spinner Yuzvendra Chahal finding his mojo.

Coaching manual: Dravid will be eager to help southpaw Pant turn his fortunes around. • VIJAY SONEJI

Attacking approach

Chahal's attacking approach with more focus on his leg-breaks fetched him three wickets in the middle overs and put the brakes on South Africa's chase before Harshal Patel cleaned up the lower-order.

On the batting front, openers Ishan Kishan and Ruturaj Gaikwad gave a perfect start with a 97-run stand in 10 overs.

But the Men in Blue will also be wary of the fact that they did not finish the innings strongly, scoring only 82 in the second half and almost losing the plot before Hardik Pandya dealt some hefty blows towards the end.

After a cameo in the first match, Rishabh Pant has failed to bring out the fireworks with poor shot selection letting him down.

The team will look to the skipper to deliver the goods in the crunch match.

The pitch in Rajkot has been batting-friendly in the three T20Is played here. But, as in the previous match at Visakhapatnam, India wouldn't mind a pitch that is on the slower side where its skilful spinners can keep things quiet in the middle phase of the innings.

Even as both sides desperately fight to win the ongoing series, they will also be cognisant of the big picture – using the matches to prepare for the ICC T20 World Cup later in the year in Australia.

The hosts have fielded an unchanged playing eleven in the first three matches but could be tempted to test either left-arm pacer Arshdeep Singh or Umran Malik for Avesh Khan who has not picked up a wicket so far.

For South Africa, Quinton de Kock, who missed the last two games due to a wrist injury, practised on Thursday though it remains to be seen if he is match-fit yet.

Despite being outplayed in the third T20I, the visitors will feel confident going into this match as there are no obvious areas of concern.

While the Proteas would want to seal the series here, Pant's men, facing another must-win contest, have shown they have enough firepower to force the series into a decider.

The stage is set for an exciting encounter.

The teams (from):

India: Rishabh Pant (Capt.), Ruturaj Gaikwad, Ishan Kishan, Shreyas Iyer, Hardik Pandya, Deepak Hooda, Dinesh Karthik, Axar Patel, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Avesh Khan, Yuzvendra Chahal, Harshal Patel, Venkatesh Iyer, Ravi Bishnoi, Arshdeep Singh, and Umran Malik.

South Africa: Temba Bavuma (Capt.), Quinton de Kock, Rassie van der Dussen, Heinrich Klaasen, David Miller, Dwaine Pretorius, Wayne Parnell, Kagiso Rabada, Anrich Nortje, Keshav Maharaj, Tabraiz Shamsi, Lungi Ngidi, Marco Jansen, Reeza Hendricks, and Tristan Stubbs.

Match starts at 7 p.m.

'My job is to stay one step ahead of the batters'

Focus is skill development, says Harshal

Arshdeep and Umran... waiting for a call. • VIJAY SONEJI

S. DIPAK RAGAV
RAJKOT

Harshal Patel, who starred with a four-wicket haul in the third T20I match against South Africa, said he needs to constantly develop his skills to stay relevant.

The pacer, known for his cutters, slower ones and clever variations, outsmarted the dangerous David Miller with one such delivery at Visakhapatnam.

Speaking in Rajkot ahead of the fourth match, Harshal said, "For the last two years (in IPL), people have been trying to anticipate what I am bowling... with every bowler, the longer they play, the opposition will realise what his strengths and patterns are.

"As a bowler, my job is to stay one step ahead of the batters. I cannot bowl fast like Umran Malik, it's plain and simple. So I have to develop skills to render myself effective. My focus is always to develop skills around my bowling, with whatever limitations and advantages I have," said Harshal.

The slow nature of the pitch in the previous game helped the Indian bowlers, and the pacer admitted that he preferred such wickets.

"In the last match, the wicket was slower than usual and allowed us to bowl hard lengths. It was difficult to clear boundaries on both sides," Harshal said.

South African pacer Anrich Nortje said his team was aware of how important the fourth T20I was.

"I said at the last game as well that this was sort of like a final for us. We didn't perform well or anything close to what we are capable of. [This is] a second chance but we need to seal the series as soon as possible and not give them any sniff," he said.

QUICK SINGLES

Sri Lanka levels series

PALLEKELE

Fast bowler Chamika Karunaratne led an inspired Sri Lankan attack to pull off a thrilling 26-run win over Australia in the rain-hit second ODI here on Thursday. The five-match series is level 1-1. **The scores:** Sri Lanka 220/9 in 47.4 overs (Kusal Mendis 36, Dhananjaya de Silva 34, Dasun Shanaka 34, Pat Cummins 4/35) bt Australia 189 in 37.1 overs (David Warner 37, Glenn Maxwell 30, Chamika Karunaratne 3/47). **Revised target:** 216 in 43 overs. AFP

Conway tests positive for COVID

LONDON

New Zealand is struggling with a worsening COVID-19 outbreak ahead of next week's third Test against England after Devon Conway became the latest member of the touring party to test positive.

ICC retains Nitin Menon in Elite Panel

RAJKOT

India's Nitin Menon has retained his place in the ICC Elite Panel and is set to make his maiden appearance as a neutral umpire in Sri Lanka later this month. Menon, who got a one-year extension from the International Cricket Council, is the only Indian in the 11-member Elite Panel. PTI

Bangladesh out for 103

NORTH SOUND (ANTIGUA)

Bangladesh was dismissed for just 103 in its first innings on the opening day of the first Test against the West Indies here on Thursday. Skipper Shakib al Hasan top scored with 51 but he was one of just three to make double figures. **The scores:** Bangladesh 103 in 32.5 overs (Shakib Al Hasan 51, Jayden Seales 3/33, Alzarri Joseph 3/33) vs West Indies.

Dominant Mumbai on the verge of final

Shaw's men dismiss UP for 180, take overall lead to 346 with nine wickets in hand

RANJI TROPHY

AMOL KARHADKAR
BENGALURU

Mumbai moved closer to its objective of ending its six-year drought of a Ranji Trophy title by dominating the third day's proceedings of its semifinal versus Uttar Pradesh at Just Cricket Academy on Thursday.

With a whopping lead of 346 and nine wickets still remaining in the second innings, besides giving its batters vital game-time, the Mumbai think-tank will be keeping a close eye on the proceedings in the second semifinal at Alur.

Incisive bowling: Avasthi exults after trapping Saurabh in front for one of his three wickets. • K. PICHUMANI

In control

UP started the day at 25 for two in quest of the Mumbai's 393. Barring the first hour, when opener Madhav Kaushik and captain Karan Sharma looked solid, Mumbai was in control all through the day. Kaushik's drives off Mohit Avasthi and Karan's hook off Tushar Deshpande for six were a treat to watch.

But once Karan poked at Avasthi and Sarfaraz Khan lunged to his right at second slip for a sharp catch, the Mumbai camp became increasingly vocal.

Then, off-spinner Tanush Kotian started the rout with Suved Parkar at forward short-leg taking an impressive catch on second attempt off a bat-pad chance offered by Kaushik. It triggered a collapse with four wickets falling for 11 runs in 17 balls.

While Kotian trapped Rinku Singh lbw, Avasthi followed it up with a double-strike over, with Sarfaraz taking yet another sharp chance to dismiss Dhruv Jurel.

Shivam Mavi then used the long handle but Deshpande's raw pace cleaned up Yash Dayal as UP got bundled out for 180.

With a lead of 213 runs, Mumbai opted to bat again in a bid to kill the contest. Prithvi Shaw and Yashasvi Jaiswal started in contrasting fashion. Shaw, dropped on 13 at gully by Rinku, was at his bludgeoning best, while Jaiswal dropped anchor and got into a blockathon.

When Shaw top-edged a sweep off Saurabh Kumar's left-arm spin into the deep, he had scored 64 off 71 balls, while Jaiswal had played out a whopping 52 dot balls. When he opened his account with a whip off Ankit Rajpoot in the next over, he raised his bat in jest to the Mumbai dressing room that applauded his application.

The left-hander then flourished along with Armaan Jaffer as the duo's unbroken association of 67 runs helped Mumbai end the day at 133 for one.

The scores:

Mumbai – 1st innings: 393.

Uttar Pradesh – 1st innings: Madhav Kaushik c Parkar b Kotian 38, Samarth Singh c Tamore b Kulkarni 0, Priyam Garg b Deshpande 3, Karan Sharma c Sarfaraz b Avasthi 27, Rinku Singh lbw b Kotian 16, Dhruv Jurel c Sarfaraz b Avasthi 2, Prince Yadav c Sarfaraz b Deshpande 20, Saurabh Kumar lbw b Avasthi 0, Shivam Mavi c Kulkarni b Kotian 48, Yash Dayal b Deshpande 4, Ankit Rajpoot (not out) 6; Extras (b-13, lb-1, nb-1, w-1): 16; Total (in 54.3 overs): 180.

Fall of wickets: 1-1, 2-4, 3-64, 4-96, 5-101, 6-107, 7-107, 8-140, 9-152.

Mumbai bowling: Kulkarni 13-4-25-1, Deshpande 17-6-34-3, Mulani 7-1-33-0, Avasthi 11-1-39-3, Kotian 6.3-1-35-3.

Mumbai – 2nd innings: Prithvi Shaw c Mavi b Saurabh 64, Yashasvi Jaiswal (batting) 35, Armaan Jaffer (batting) 32; Extras (lb-2): 2; Total (for one wkt. in 42 overs): 133.

Fall of wicket: 1-66.

Uttar Pradesh bowling: Dayal 5-1-18-0, Rajpoot 9-3-27-0, Mavi 7-2-22-0, Prince 6-3-21-0, Saurabh 9-3-32-1, Karan 6-2-11-0.

After Tiwary-Shahbaz show, MP in control

Bengal loses the first innings race; Patidar helps the team reach 163 for two

AYAN ACHARYA
BENGALURU

Madhya Pradesh gained the vital first-innings lead in the Ranji Trophy semifinal against Bengal, despite hundreds from Manoj Tiwary (102, 211b, 12x4) and Shahbaz Ahmed (116, 209b, 12x4) on Day 3 in Alur on Thursday.

MP was 163 for two at stumps, ahead by 231, riding on Rajat Patidar's fifty (63, 109b, 10x4).

After bowling Bengal out for 273, the MP openers survived a few play-and-misses and a close run-out chance.

Bengal struck in the second over after the break when Mukesh angled a length ball into Yash Dubey, who was late on the flick and hit on the pads. Though it seemed to be sliding down leg, umpire Vineet Kulkarni thought otherwise and Mukesh had his 100th First Class wicket.

A few overs later, a caught-behind appeal off Shahbaz was turned down by Ravikant Reddy. Shahbaz beat Shubham Sharma in the air and off the pitch to trigger a vociferous appeal from the Bengal fielders. But replays confirmed that there was daylight between bat and ball.

Shahbaz had to endure more disappointment when Shubham was given a reprieve on nine after Abishek Porel spilled a straightforward chance. But he redeemed himself by effecting a quick stumping to dismiss Himanshu Mantri.

In good nick: Shahbaz notched up his maiden First Class hundred. • K. MURALI KUMAR

Patidar walked in and played a flurry of fluent drives. He had added 40 for the third wicket with Shubham when the latter retired hurt before tea. Captain Aditya Shrivastava and Patidar then exploited the spread-out field to milk runs.

Earlier, Tiwary could barely drag himself off the field after top-edging a sweep off off-spinner Saransh Jain (three for 63) to be caught at first slip. He had just completed his 29th First Class hundred and dropped his bat and pulled out from his pocket a piece of paper that acknowledged the support of his wife Sushmita, son Vivaan and pet dog Maximus.

Shortly after, Shahbaz reached his 100 off 193 balls, the entire Bengal dressing room applauding his maiden First Class hundred.

Shahbaz mostly played straight. He drove every full ball but refrained from chasing the wide line, so it must've been disappointing when he went after a full and wide ball, only to nick it to the 'keeper.

Once both fell, the rest followed suit. There could be more toil ahead for Bengal on day four.

The scores: MP – 1st innings: 341.

Bengal – 1st innings: Abhishek Raman b Kartikeya 0, Abhimanyu Easwaran c Mantri b Puneet 22, Sudip Gharami b Kartikeya 0, Anustup Majumdar c Patidar b Saransh 4, Manoj Tiwary c Patidar b Saransh 102, Abishek Porel c Shubham b Puneet 9, Shahbaz Ahmed c Mantri b Puneet 116, Sayan Mondal c Patidar b Saransh 0, Pradipta Pramanik lbw b Kartikeya 3, Akash Deep c Patidar b Gaurav 5, Mukesh Kumar (not out) 0; Extras (b-4, lb-8): 12; Total (in 89.2 overs): 273.

Fall of wickets: 1-0, 2-0, 3-11, 4-44, 5-54, 6-237, 7-237, 8-256, 9-268.

MP bowling: Kartikeya 34-10-61-3, Saransh 19-3-63-3, Puneet 14-1-48-3, Anubhav 7-2-26-0, Gaurav 12.2-2-49-1, Shubham 3-0-14-0.

MP – 2nd innings: Himanshu Mantri st Porel b Pramanik 21, Yash Dubey lbw b Mukesh 12, Shubham Sharma (retd. hurt) 22, Rajat Patidar (batting) 63, Aditya Shrivastava (batting) 34; Extras (lb-10, w-1): 11; Total (for two wkts. in 63 overs): 163.

Fall of wickets: 1-23, 2-50.

Bengal bowling: Mukesh 14-1-45-1, Akash 14-2-38-0, Mondal 2-0-11-0, Shahbaz 20-4-34-0, Pramanik 11-4-22-1, Tiwary 2-0-3-0.

Karnataka HC stays sending of CWG TT list

RAKESH RAO
NEW DELHI

Another chapter was added to the selection saga of the Indian table tennis team for the upcoming Commonwealth Games on Thursday when the High Court of Karnataka ordered a stay on sending the list of selected players till June 22, 2022.

The order was issued following a petition filed by Archana Kamath, initially named in the four-member women's team and then dropped.

With the exception of the Union of India, the Court directed the other seven of the eight respondents – Table Tennis Federation of India, Sports Authority of India, Sreeja Akula, Reeth Rishya, Manika Batra, Diya Chitale and Swastika Ghosh – "to appear in person or through an advocate duly instructed or through some one authorised by law to act for you in the case, returnable by 22/06/2022 to show cause why rule Nisi should not be issued."

Meanwhile, the cases filed separately by Swastika Ghosh and Manush Shah are scheduled for hearing in the Delhi High Court on June 20.

Diya Chitale was the first to move the Court after being ignored by the selection committee formed by the CoA.

Thereafter, ignored players Swastika and Manush moved the Delhi HC.

Neeraj headlines 37-member Commonwealth Games squad

Long jumper Jeswin, marathoner Srinu and high jumper Tejaswin miss out; Sable, Manu and Rohit make the grade

Encore beckons: Neeraj will strive to defend his CWG title at Birmingham. • REUTERS

UTHRA GANESAN
NEW DELHI

The Athletics Federation of India has named a 37-member squad headlined by Neeraj Chopra for the Birmingham Commonwealth Games with quite a few entrants being subject to achieving the qualifying mark in Kazakhstan later this month.

Missing out was long jumper Jeswin Aldrin despite achieving the AFI standard at the Federation Cup in April and marathoner Srinu Bugatha who had done the same in January. High jumper Tejaswin Shankar, who cleared the 2.27m mark in the NCAA recently, was not considered.

The Indian contingent is expected to participate in the XXXI Qosanov Memorial event in Kazakhstan on June 25-26 before the final list.

"There are a few athletes we have included whose performances we are not satisfied with and their entries will be subject to achieving the standard in Kazakhstan," AFI president Adille Sumariwalla said. These include shot-putter Tajinder Pal Singh Toor and discus thrower Seema Punia.

The 19 men and 18 women include javelin throwers Rohit Yadav and Manu DP, Avinash Sable in 3000m steeplechase and triple jumpers Abdulla Aboobacker, Praveen Chitravel, Eldhose Paul besides long jumpers Sreeshankar and Md. Anees Yahiya.

Asked about the missing names, Sumariwalla was categorical. "Jeswin has been constantly slipping in the last four meets. Tejaswin neither sought an exemption from participating in Inter-State meet nor permission to train and perform abroad despite us being in constant touch with him. Our rules are very clear," he explained.

Interestingly, Srabani Nanda, training in Jamaica for the last few years, has been included in the 4x100m relay although AFI rules also state that no non-camper would be considered for relay teams. "She had our permission to train abroad," said Sumariwalla.

The squad:

Men: Avinash Sable (3000SC, 5000m), Amoj Jacob, Moah Nirmal Tom, Arokia Rajiv, Md. Ajmal, Naganathan Pandi, Rajesh Remesh (4x400m relay), Nitender Rawat (marathon), Neeraj Chopra, Manu D.P., Rohit Yadav (javelin), M. Sreeshankar, Md. Anees Yahiya (long jump), Abdulla Aboobacker, Praveen Chitravel, Eldhose Paul (triple jump), Sandeep Kumar, Amit (10km walk).

Women: Dhanalakshmi (100m, 4x100m relay), Jyothi Yarraji (100mH), Manpreet Kaur (shot put), Annu Rani (javelin), Aishwarya B. (long jump, triple jump), Ancy Sojan (long jump), Bhavna Jat, Priyanka Goswamy (10km walk), Hima Das, Dutee Chand, Srabani Nanda, Jilna M.V., Simi N.S. (4x100m relay).

Conditional entries: Tajinder Pal Singh Toor (shot put), Navjeet Kaur and Seema Punia (discus), Sarita R. Singh and Manju Bala Devi (hammer throw), Shilpa Rani (javelin).

IN BRIEF

Young Stars FC posts win

BENGALURU

Young Stars FC defeated FC Bengaluru United 2-0 in the KSFA 'B' division women's football league here on Thursday.

The results: Young Starts FC 2 (S. Michelle 12, Nandita Balaji 36) bt FC Bengaluru United FC 0; GRK Glittering Stars FC 0 drew Baldwin International FC 0; Alchemy International FC 0 drew with William's Women's FC 0.

Century Club 'A' beats Bowring Institute

BENGALURU

Century Club 'A' defeated Bowring Institute 655-558 in the Chandra Bhatia inter-club snooker championship here.

The scores: Bangalore Club bt KSCA Club House 670-588; Century Club 'A' bt Bowring Institute 655-558; Bangalore City Institute bt Century Club 'C' 763-653; KSBA 'B' bt Century Club 'B' 668-576.

Head coach Stimac lashes out at AIFF

Threatens to quit his job if certain conditions are not met by the governing body

FOOTBALL

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
NEW DELHI

Igor Stimac warned that Indian football is a decade behind Asia's best and threatened to quit as national coach unless there are "drastic" changes.

The 54-year-old Croat, who played in the Premier League with West Ham and Derby, was appointed in 2019 by the All India Football Federation (AIFF).

But the governing body is in disarray and being run by administrators after former chief Praful Patel stayed in office beyond his term without fresh elections, which courts ruled invalid.

Talking tough: Igor Stimac feels drastic changes are needed to develop Indian football as he says the country is far behind other nations • PTI

The management problems were compounding a chronic lack of football development that has left India "eight to 10 years behind the top-eight Asian countries", Stimac said.

"How are we going to get there? So let's wake up," the former defender told reporters on Wednesday. Stimac took aim at the AIFF's stalled leadership transition a day after India celebrated its place at next year's Asian Cup with a 4-0 home demolition of Hong Kong to top their qualifying group. "I am not getting into who is right and who is wrong," Stimac said of the power struggle at the top of Indian football.

Bad timing

"It is not my job. I am just talking about timing. At such an important time, such a thing is happening, is anyone normal?"

Stimac said he was coaching the team with a salary "lower than my asking price" and would only continue beyond his September contract expiry if certain conditions were met. Among them are an overhaul of the domestic I-League, including prioritising the development of local talent.

City to launch title defence at West Ham

PREMIER LEAGUE

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
LONDON

Manchester City will begin the defence of its Premier League title at West Ham while Liverpool travels to Fulham on the opening weekend of the season.

The 2022/23 fixtures, published on Thursday, gives new Manchester United manager Erik ten Hag an opening test at Old Trafford against Brighton, which hammered United 4-0 last month.

Nottingham Forest's first match in the top flight for 23 years will be at Newcastle.

Pep Guardiola's City will start its bid for a fifth title in six seasons at the London Stadium on Sunday, August 7, after all its rivals have begun their campaigns.

Liverpool and City renew their rivalry at Anfield in mid-October, after a mid-week Champions League tie, with the return fixture scheduled for the start of April.

Reds boss Jurgen Klopp is unlikely to be impressed with their fixture allocation in conjunction with their European commitments.

Their three away matches following Champions League group games are against Chelsea, Arsenal and Tottenham.

The traditional "Big Six" have been kept apart on the final weekend before the mid-season break for the World Cup in Qatar, the weekend of November 12/13.

'Mirabai needs to improve in snatch'

National coach Vijay Sharma says she has to put in a little more effort

WEIGHTLIFTING

Y.B. SARANGI
KOLKATA

As Mirabai Chanu on Thursday lifted 86kg in snatch in her first competition in the women's 49kg category after the Tokyo Games, chief National coach Vijay Sharma said the Olympics silver medallist needed to improve her snatch performance ahead of the Commonwealth Games.

Mirabai – who took silver in Tokyo with efforts of 87kg in snatch, 115kg in clean and jerk and 202kg in total – did 86kg in her first snatch attempt, but could not lift 89kg in her two subsequent attempts in the inaugural Khelo India National-ranking women's weightlifting championships at Nagrota Bagwan, Himachal Pradesh.

She did 105kg in her first and only clean and jerk attempt to claim the gold medal with an aggregate of 191kg.

Get better: Mirabai has to fine-tune her snatch routine. • AFP

Sharma said the main focus was on Mirabai's snatch performance. "Her rhythm for the competition is not there. But technically she is alright as she began from 86kg.

"This event was a good test. The athlete got to know that one should not be overconfident. Also, there is a need to put in a little more effort."

After the Olympics, Mirabai competed in the Singapore international event in February in 55kg and gave identical performances.

"In Singapore, she started with 80kg. Here her first attempt was 86kg. She can start from 87kg and can go past 90kg," said Sharma.

Two major events

The Birmingham Commonwealth Games in late July and the World championships in Bogota, Colombia, in December are the next big events for Mirabai.

"The first target is to improve the performance in snatch in the Commonwealth Games. She is lagging a bit. She will maintain her clean and jerk performance.

"The World championships, where the main fight will be among lifters from some top Asian countries, will be the starting point for our preparations for the Paris Olympics," said Sharma.

Maini gears up for 2022 DTM C'ship

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
MEUSPATH (GERMANY)

India's Mercedes-AMG driver Arjun Maini is all geared up to compete in the third round of the 2022 DTM Championship, set to take place at the historic Imola race circuit in Italy this weekend.

The Bengaluru-based driver came agonisingly close to securing his second podium in the series at the previous round at the Lausitzring, when he finished fourth during the first race of the weekend.

He will be looking to go one better when he gets behind the wheel of the #36 Paul Mercedes-AMG GT-3 run by the Haupt Racing Team.

Maini, who made his DTM debut last year, has displayed a tremendous amount of tenacity.

Qatar ready to deliver grand spectacle

Organising panel working on enhancing fan experience

WORLD CUP 2022

AASHIN PRASAD
DOHA

With a little over 150 days to go for the first-ever FIFA World Cup in Qatar, the local organising committee is confident of delivering a memorable tournament.

With the infrastructure for the global showpiece in place, the Supreme Committee for Delivery and Legacy is working on enhancing fan experience, according to communications executive director Fatma Al Nuaimi.

Ever since Qatar was awarded the hosting rights in 2010, the country has been under the scanner on several issues.

"It has been quite a journey. When we won the rights, we were scrutinised by the media on issues from corruption and human rights to workers' welfare.

Fatma Al Nuaimi. • GETTY IMAGES

For us, it's about addressing those concerns and using the World Cup as a catalyst for change," she said.

On the social aspect of the tournament – workers' welfare and human rights – the development and transformation in the 10 years had been major, she said. New minimum wages had been introduced and employment regulations changed to the benefit of workers, Fatma said.

She also played down concerns that it would be an expensive World Cup for fans and pointed to the demand for tickets from around the globe.

"We have had plenty of interest in the first and second phases of ticket sales. People want to be at the tournament.

"Top countries that have applied for tickets are Argentina, Mexico, USA, UK, UAE and Germany," she said.

Fatma hopes the World Cup will help change Qatar's image.

"There is a negative concept of us in the media. The biggest takeaway for us from the World Cup would be them [fans] leaving with good memories and a better understanding of the region," she said.

(The writer is in Qatar at the invitation of the Supreme Committee for Delivery & Legacy)

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